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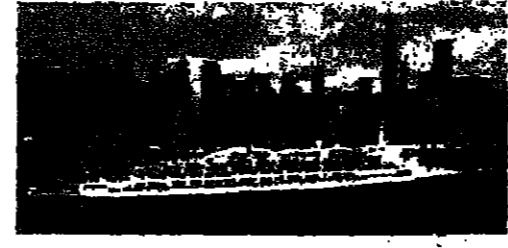
Weekend

# FINANCIAL TIMES

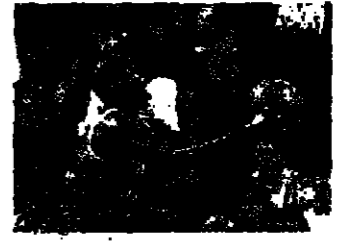
Weekend FT  
Till divorce  
do us part



Cruising - four  
pages at sea



Basketball's  
teenage targets



World Business Newspaper

WEEKEND FEBRUARY 10/FEBRUARY 11 1996

## US civil rights groups in battle over Internet ban

Under the banner "Keep cyberspace free", civil liberties groups are mounting a worldwide protest campaign on the Internet opposing implementation of anti-pornography measures contained in the US Telecommunications Act signed by President Bill Clinton this week. Thousands of organisations, individuals and companies have turned the pages of their Internet sites black - a black background with white text - to protest against the law which bans the dissemination of "indecent" material on computer networks. Page 22; Prosperity without profits, Page 8

## Positive market reaction to Chrysler agreement

Wall Street reacted enthusiastically to the five-year standstill agreement that has brought peace between Chrysler and one of its biggest shareholders, Kirk Kerkorian. The carmaker's shares jumped nearly 5 per cent when the stock market opened, reflecting enthusiasm for Chrysler's promise to buy back more of its shares and relief that the war of words between the two sides was over. Page 6

## London stocks down 1.7% in dismal week

While the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose nearly 200 points over the UK trading week, London put on a dismal performance which saw the FT-SE fall by 1.7 per cent. The gap between the two created havoc for international arbitrageurs, the dealers who trade on the spread between the two indices. UK stocks were marked higher at the start following Thursday's record-breaking rise on the Dow. However, there was little underlying enthusiasm and news of a rise in high-street sales was viewed as undermining the chances of another interest rate cut rather than as an encouraging economic signal. Upward pressure from Wall Street helped the index to close 7.9 higher at 3,716.3. World stocks, Page 17; London stocks, Page 19; Markets, Weekend Money Page 2

**FT-SE 100 Index**  
Hourly movements  
3,700  
3,750  
3,770  
3,790  
3,810  
3,830  
5 Feb 1996

## Russian state gems chairman charged

Yevgeny Bychkov, the most powerful man in the Russian diamond industry, has been charged with illegal foreign currency deals.

## Pearson, the international media group, announced that it had agreed to buy the educational publishing interests of Rupert Murdoch's HarperCollins publishing group in a deal worth \$580m. Page 6

## Canada blocks US book chains: The Canadian government has blocked investment plans by Borders, a big US book retailer, on the controversial grounds of protecting Canada's "cultural industries". Page 22

## Russian allies plan: Moscow would seek allies of its own in central Europe if Nato went ahead with plans to enlarge the alliance, General Pavel Grachev, the Russian defence minister, said. Page 2

## Alleged ticket fraud cancels UK rail deal: A bid for a railway franchise by managers from the national state network, British Rail, has been disallowed after the discovery of an alleged ticket fraud. Page 4

## Japan's five-year downturn 'at an end': Japan's five years of economic stagnation have ended, the country's official economic forecaster announced, despite widespread scepticism about the pace of recovery. Page 22

## William Baird warning clips share prices: Shares in William Baird, supplier of clothing to Marks and Spencer, dropped 13p to 168p as the group issued a profits warning. Page 6

## High suicide rate for French police: The French police force is the country's most suicide-prone work group with an officer committing suicide every nine days, a three-year study has found. Stress, low pay, public hostility and scarce resources are among the reasons for the high rate, according to the report.

Companies in this issue

|   |                   |    |
|---|-------------------|----|
| 6 | Manchester United | 22 |
| 6 | Boosey & Hawkes   | 4  |
| 6 | British Gas       | 5  |
| 6 | Chesterart        | 6  |
| 6 | Crest Nicholson   | 22 |
| 6 | GWR               | 6  |
| 6 | Galliard Homes    | 6  |
| 6 | Harmory           | 22 |
| 6 | London News Radio | 1  |

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## IRA ceasefire in doubt after London explosion

The Irish Republican Army's 17-month old ceasefire appeared to be over last night as a huge bomb ripped through a railway station in east London. Six people were reported seriously hurt, but the area had been cleared by police following a coded warning.

The bomb exploded little more than an hour after a statement announcing the renewal of the republican terrorist campaign was telephoned to the Dublin studios of RTE, Ireland's state-owned broadcasting organisation.

Mr Major condemned the bombing as an "appalling outrage" and pledged to "pursue relentlessly those responsible for this disgraceful attack". He called on Sinn Féin and the IRA leadership to condemn those who planted the bomb.

What it called British intransigence was threatening the peace process. Minutes after the bomb, Sinn Féin denied any knowledge of the end of the ceasefire. Mr Richard McAuley, spokesman for Mr Gerry Adams, Sinn Féin president, said: "I was with Gerry earlier in the day, and he knew as little as I did."

Mr Joe Hendron, MP for the moderate nationalist SDLP party, condemned the bombing but accused London of "pusy-footing around" the peace process. He suggested that the Conservative government's increasing dependence on the votes of Ulster Unionist MPs in the Commons had dictated the government's hard line towards Sinn Féin.

## Ford looks to raise \$1.7bn from 20% sale of finance arm

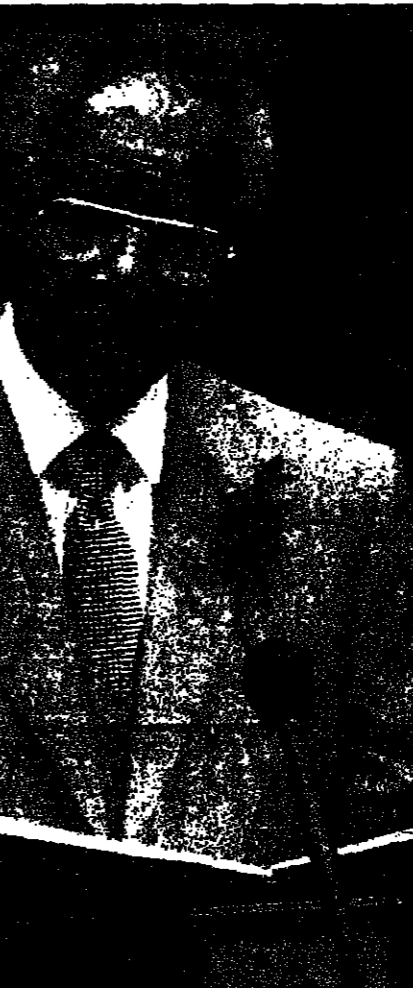
Car maker hopes to boost share price

Ford, the second-biggest US car maker, showed its determination to boost its flagging share price yesterday by announcing a public listing of almost 20 per cent of The Associates, its wholly-owned consumer finance subsidiary.

The deal could raise up to \$1.7bn, based on analysts' estimates that the Dallas-based offshoot is worth between 10 and 12 times its 1995 net earnings of \$705m.

Mr Ken Whipple, president of Ford's Financial Services Group, said: "An initial public offering by Associates would further

## Call for 'new patriotism'



South African president Nelson Mandela speaks during the opening of parliament in Cape Town yesterday. He urged all South Africans to unite in a 'new patriotism' to develop the country and share the rewards of the post-apartheid era. Report, Page 3

## Santer says delay will spell end of Emu

By Lionel Barber in Brussels

Mr Jacques Santer, president of the European Commission, yesterday warned that the planned single currency would die if it was delayed beyond the agreed launch date in 1999.

His "all-or-nothing" remarks - from an interview with Swiss newspaper Tages-Anzeiger - raised the stakes in the battle to restore confidence in a project weakened by rising unemployment and public indifference.

Last week, German chancellor Helmut Kohl warned that a failure to meet the Euro timetable could endanger political and economic integration in Europe.

British officials detected a touch of desperation in Mr Santer's remarks, but the former Luxembourg prime minister recalled that hesitancy by European governments had helped to bury plans in the 1960s for a west European defence union. "This example shows that delaying currency union would be the end of it," he said. "I cannot rule out that things already achieved [by

Continued on Page 22

## Falconbridge in C\$4bn bid for Canadian metals group

By Bernard Simon in Toronto

Falconbridge, the Toronto-based metals producer, has launched a friendly C\$4bn (\$2.9bn) bid for Diamond Fields Resources, the Vancouver-based company whose main asset is a rich nickel, cobalt and copper deposit at Voisey's Bay, Labrador.

The deal, if it goes through, would more than double Falconbridge's nickel output by the end of the decade, putting it in a position to challenge Inco as the world's biggest producer. Falconbridge is controlled by Noranda, the Canadian resources group.

Diamond Fields has paid a C\$28m fee to Falconbridge and has agreed to pay another C\$75m if a competing bid is successful.

The bid could unleash a battle for control of Voisey's Bay, which is expected to become one of the world's biggest and lowest cost nickel producers around the turn of the century.

Inco, which currently controls about a third of the world's nickel market, last year bought a 25 per cent stake in the deposit as well as a minority interest in Diamond Fields.

Under that deal, Inco has a right to make a counter-offer for Diamond Fields. The company said yesterday it was studying the Falconbridge proposal and expected to make its intentions known next week. Several multinational mining houses, including the UK's RTZ, have also wooed Diamond Fields in recent months.

STOCK MARKET INDICES

|                                    |                      |                             |                              |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| FT-SE 100: 3716.3 (-1.7%)          | US LUNCHTIME RATES   | STERLING                    | DOLLAR                       |
| Field: 3.87                        | Federal Funds: 5.25% | New York Lchtime: \$ 1.5315 | New York Lchtime: DM 1.47875 |
| FT-SE Eurostoxx 100: 1647.77       | 3-m T-bill: 4.818%   | London: \$ 1.5322 (1.537)   | FF: 6.0615                   |
| FT-SE-A All-Share: 1829.38 (+0.2%) | Long Bond: 9.8%      | DM: 2.2633 (2.268)          | SFr: 1.2005                  |
| Nickel: 2094.82 (-183.48)          | Yield: 6.084%        | FF: 7.7743 (7.768)          | Y: 107.195                   |
| New York Lchtime:                  |                      | DM: 1.4774 (1.4782)         |                              |
| Dow Jones Ind Ave: 5918.50 (-20.2) |                      | SFr: 1.2008 (1.2012)        |                              |
| S & P Composite: 694.11 (-1.9)     |                      | Y: 108.885 (108.845)        |                              |
|                                    |                      | S Index: 96.2 (96.1)        |                              |
|                                    |                      | Tokyo: 107.36               |                              |

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NEWS: INTERNATIONAL

Moscow to seek own allies if Nato grows

By Henad Sebek in Belgrade, Harriet Martin in Sarajevo and Bruce Clark in London

Moscow would seek allies of its own in central Europe if Nato went ahead with plans for enlargement...

His comments over the detained officers jarred with those of western officials, who have denounced the Serb side for over-reacting to the arrests...

secretary of state, said in Budapest: "The US will not tolerate the kind of threats that some of the Bosnian Serbs have been making..."

It would "seek partners among the countries of eastern and central Europe, and among the member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States..."

Moscow in March for what he realised would be "difficult talks" on European security.

Chechnya becomes big issue for Russian poll

By John Thornhill in Moscow

The conflict in Chechnya, which has dragged on for more than a year and shown no signs of abating...

President Boris Yeltsin, who seems almost certain to announce next week that he will seek re-election...

Mr Yeltsin has asked Mr Victor Chernomyrdin, premier, to find a solution to the Chechen conflict...



Women holding a sign reading "Collecting signatures for Boris Yeltsin as a presidential candidate" seek support in Moscow. The constitution requires 1m signatures for a candidacy

In a speech to parliament, Mr Chernomyrdin said federal forces would continue to disarm illegal militias in Chechnya...

leader who declared Chechnya's independence from Moscow in 1991. Mr Yeltsin said the government was considering seven options to end the conflict...

successive day of protest rallies against the Russian occupation of Chechnya. The Russian authorities claimed the blast was a provocation aimed at stirring up anti-Russian and anti-government hysteria...

Support local industry, urges deputy PM

Mr Oleg Soskovets, Russia's first deputy prime minister, who has strengthened his position after a government reshuffle...

Attending his first government meeting since his appointment, Mr Vladimir Kadannikov, the other first deputy prime minister...

In a twist to the debate over Russia's economic policy, Mr Anatoly Kulkov, interior minister, urged the government to nationalise some commercial banks and increase oil export tariffs to raise funds...

Italy backing plan for a two-tier European Union

By John Kampfner in London and Lionel Barber in Brussels

The Italian presidency of the EU is backing a plan for a new two-tier structure for an enlarged European Union...

states to opt out of certain areas without abandoning basic obligations in areas such as the single market.

delegation at preparatory meetings for the IGC had made a new approach to the IGC imperative.

vision of a "flexible and open Europe which rejects introversion". New member states from eastern and central Europe shared Britain's desire to build a "Union of nation states"...

Mr Lothar Klemm, economics minister of Hesse, in which Frankfurt is located, said the move was "a further important step to ensure that internationally accepted standards of supervision and investor security apply on the Frankfurt bourse"...

US claims of 'sleeping' in Aegean anger Britain

By Bruce Clark, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain yesterday described as "nonsense" an American claim that its European allies had been inactive during the recent naval stand-off in the Aegean between Greece and Turkey.

In an angry statement, the UK Foreign Office rejected a claim by Mr Richard Holbrooke, the outgoing assistant secretary of state, that "the Europeans were literally sleeping through the night" as the crisis unfolded.

The UK Foreign Office also drew attention to the massive European contribution to peace-making in other areas of the Balkans, notably Bosnia, where the British had sent three times more troops per head than Washington.

It is highly unusual for Britain and the US to exchange such harsh words in public statements. UK and US officials have acknowledged that there was a "serious rift" between them over Bosnia in 1994...

It is highly unusual for Britain and the US to exchange such harsh words in public. The Anglo-American argument broke out amid continuing western worry about the simmering Turkish-Greek dispute...

Mr Costas Simitis, the Greek prime minister, agreed this week with President Glafcos Clerides of Cyprus on the need for "continuous additions and constant review" of their joint defence doctrine.

As a long-standing friend of Mr Simitis, and a strong supporter of the recently sealed customs union between Turkey and the European Union, the Nato chief may be well placed to act as a go-between in the Aegean dispute.

EU helps find new work for oldest professionals

By David White in Bilbao

Bilbao, a city that grew around steel and ships, has been grappling for years with the decline of old industries.

The day-care plan is organised jointly with a voluntary organisation, Askabide (Path of Freedom). The eight participants, with an average age about 40, are hired by Lan Ekitntza on one-year contracts and paid Pta1,815 an hour.

France tempts hoarders to spend more

By Gillian Tett and Andrew Jack

Last month the rate of income paid on the popular Livret A savings accounts was reduced for the first time in 10 years.

The real question for the French economy is whether these measures can reverse the deep consumer gloom. Otherwise, fears are growing that France could see little - or even no - growth this year.

Brazil curbs foreign capital

Brazil yesterday imposed restrictions on the inflow of foreign capital after a sharp increase in investment in the first weeks of the year.

Foreign money being invested in special privatisation funds will have to pay a 5 per cent entrance tax. The minimum maturity for Brazilian companies raising money on overseas bond markets will climb from two years to three years.

In November the Socialist government abruptly cancelled a plan to sell 25 per cent of OTE, blaming poor market conditions.

Telephone jobs go in Spain

Telefonica, Spain's telecommunications giant, which is 20 per cent state owned, is to reduce its 71,000 workforce by 10 per cent over five years.

Efforts to tighten up trading practices on the Frankfurt stock exchange were reinforced yesterday by a ruling from the Hesse state economics ministry that official brokers must stop mixing trades on their own account with orders for clients.

Frankfurt tightens bourse rules

The move is in line with Germany's tougher attitude towards insider trading, outlawed in 1994, and follows a crackdown by the Federal Supervisory Office for Securities Trading on those using privileged information for their own benefit.

Trafalgar wins Thai contract

Trafalgar House, the UK construction, engineering and shipping conglomerate, has been named as preferred bidder for a \$500m (£770m) contract to build an iron and steel plant at Rayong in Thailand.

French reassured over Taiwan

French concerns about possible military conflict in the Taiwan Strait have been eased after discussions in Beijing between its foreign minister and Chinese leaders.

Seoul and Tokyo in island clash

South Korea yesterday said it would "deal sternly" with a territorial dispute with Tokyo over a small island in the Sea of Japan.

The dispute is likely to be a central issue of discussion when a Japanese parliamentary group arrives in Seoul tomorrow for talks on bilateral issues.

Iraq optimistic on UN talks

Iraq believes that the opening round of talks with the United Nations on an oil-for-food deal are going so smoothly that they may end as early as Tuesday, diplomatic sources said.

The talks, on how to implement the plan that might bring Iraqi crude oil back into the market for the first time in five years, began on February 6. The discussions are based on Security Council Resolution 986 that allows Iraq to sell \$2bn in oil over six months under controlled conditions to buy needed food and medicine.

Cuban telecommunications

KPMG has asked us to point out that the valuation of Etessa, the Cuban telephone company, referred to in an article in the Mexican group paper was based on projections by Grupo Damos.

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مكتبة الأصيل

ملکہ امنہ ایلم

NEWS: INTERNATIONAL

Mandela call to action on crime and jobs

By Roger Matthews in Cape Town

President Nelson Mandela yesterday called for a "national vision" to lift South Africa out of the quagmire of high unemployment and crime rates.

we have attained will peter out in a few years.

The danger seen by Mr Mandela was that the strains of limited capacity, shortage of skills, balance of payments problems, and other constraints would start to gather momentum.

To avoid this risk Mr Mandela said it was vital to extricate the public and private sectors from "their current comfort zones" in order to achieve the growth rates needed to secure a permanent reduction in unemployment levels.

The president said substantial investment was needed in many sectors of the economy, and questioned whether the profit motive alone could be the dynamo for growth.

Pro-life and anti everything else, Buchanan leads with the right

Mr Pat Buchanan is, if only for the moment, leading the field in the Republican presidential primary race going into Monday's Iowa caucus.

Jurek Martin on the populist Republican who won this week's Louisiana caucuses

appeal to the working class with promises to abrogate both the Nafta and Gatt agreements they opposed.

"The Fortune 500 used to employ 22 per cent of American workers. That's fallen to close to 10 per cent. When IUS trade representative Mickey Kantor goes to Geneva to negotiate a trade deal, sitting at his elbow is not some working class guy who says my job's on the line, it's the CEO or lobbyist from some Fortune 500 company who says put this in here so we can export our factory to Indonesia."

He has no time for the World Trade Organisation "where the greatest action on earth gets one vote, the same as Bangladesh and Burundi" - nor its head, Mr Renato Ruggiero, "the Italian bureaucrat".

Retreating not one inch from his notorious "cultural war" speech to the Republican convention of 1992, he now says "America is going to need something of a moral and religious revival in this country to change human lives and human hearts. We've got to get back to the ideas and concepts of right and wrong."

But he spends more time this year on economic issues, sometimes, it seems, linking unseen hands with old-line protectionists on the Democratic left and even with Mr Ross Perot in a direct

he calls "judicial dictatorship". He would place term limits on all federal judges and subject Supreme Court rulings to repeal by referendum.

"We want our country back. I don't want to be dictated to by a Supreme Court" which protects "criminals, atheists, homosexuals, flag burners, illegal aliens, including terrorists, convicts and pornographers".

The Supreme Court "has been in the vanguard of an intellectual elite that believes the prevailing social order of middle class America is deeply flawed, unjust and corrupt."

Only for an Irish-American Catholic, though in tune with the current climate of public opinion, he views immigrants, though illegal and otherwise, with suspicion: "I will build a 2,000-mile steel fence across the southern border of this country which they will not cross."

A dim view is also taken about all international alliances and commitments, especially to the United Nations.

"I'm not saying what [treaties] you'd get rid of, I am saying we would have a bottom-up review of all America's foreign policy commitments and we would not be making new ones."

Naturally, he opposes the US role in Bosnia. "This is a bloody, brutal civil war that has been going on for centuries. Atrocities have been committed on all sides and America has no business being there."

The trouble with running for office is that it leaves a public record. Here is Mr Buchanan in 1992 at an earlier stage of the Balkan conflict.

"I don't understand a foreign policy which sends half a million troops around the world to liberate Kuwait and then sits idle while Croatia, a Christian, Catholic country, is being raped and brutalised by a Stalinist regime in Belgrade."

But, of course, then he was running against President Bush.

Discontent and the good life, Page 9



Buchanan: economic nationalism and social conservatism

Chinese approve HK's treaties

By Simon Holberton in Hong Kong

Uncertainty over Hong Kong's position in the international community was removed yesterday when China agreed to Hong Kong's continuing participation in more than 200 multilateral treaties covering aviation, finance and shipping.

In a sign of growing Anglo-Chinese co-operation on the handover of Hong Kong, just over 500 days away, Beijing has also agreed to talk to Britain about how Hong Kong's laws can effectively straddle the change in sovereignty.

Mr Hugh Davies, British team leader of the Joint Liaison Group overseeing the handover, said the results of this, the 36th meeting of the group, had lived up to expectations. While it did not mark a new dawn it underlined a preparedness by Beijing to clear up outstanding issues.

There were, however, disappointments. Chief among these was Beijing's refusal to approve a Hong Kong government proposal for the introduction of six mobile telecommunications licences for personal communications services. Instead, Britain reluctantly agreed to put the issue to an "expert group" for further discussion.

Some Hong Kong companies, notably Hongkong Telecommunications, the former monopoly supplier, have been lobbying Beijing to reject the Hong Kong government's proposal and award four licences. Mr Davies reacted angrily to Chinese claims of lack of co-operation in providing more information.

"We are very, very willing to provide more information to the Chinese side if only they would come and get it," he said.

In general, however, Mr Davies was upbeat about the latest meeting of the JLG, which concluded its three day meeting in Hong Kong yesterday. He said there was a better overall atmosphere between the UK and China.

US takes recorded music royalties dispute to WTO

By Our Foreign Staff

The US is to take its dispute with Japan over recorded music royalties to the World Trade Organisation.

agreement that came into effect on January 1.

Japanese legislation introduced at the beginning of the year recognises neighbouring rights retroactively to 1971. However, the US and most European countries believe protection should extend back 50 years.

The European Commission said yesterday it too would go to the WTO unless Japan

altered its legislation.

Mr Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, said Japan was "failing to live up to a clear obligation".

The US had made 13 representations to Japan on the issue since last June, most recently yesterday morning, but "to no avail".

about \$500m (\$324.6m) a year in royalties.

Brandishing a Japanese CD of US standards, he said "the range and stature of the music produced in that quarter of a century is astounding".

Affected US artists included Duke Ellington, John Coltrane, Frank Sinatra, Johnny Cash, the Beach Boys, Bob Dylan and many more.

went on, "is just the tip of the iceberg when you're talking about intellectual property and Japan is just the tip of the iceberg when talking about countries tempted to violate intellectual property rights".

The Japanese authorities said yesterday that Japan's failure to extend protection to before 1971 did not violate the trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (Trips)

treaty signed by Japan and other countries and said they were prepared to discuss the issue at the WTO.

The companies which are targeted by the US in its action are small distributors of CDs which are mainly compilations of old songs by popular musicians.

Japan's agency for cultural affairs, which is responsible for intellectual property rights,

insists that the issue is not whether Japan will extend protection to 1946 but what the correct interpretation of the Trips agreement should be.

US president Bill Clinton and Mr Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese prime minister, yesterday scheduled a surprise meeting in Santa Monica, California, later this month to seek progress on a series of trade and security problems.

WEEKEND BUSINESS section containing various financial and legal notices, including 'NIGERIA', 'Management Buy-Out', 'ACT! THE SALES MANAGEMENT SYSTEM', 'BARKER & CO SOLICITORS', 'SAVE ON INT'L PHONE CALLS', 'BUSINESS WANTED', 'LEGAL NOTICES', 'FOR SALE/MERGER', 'UK Based Freight Forwarder', 'BUSINESSES FOR SALE', 'OMEGA RESEARCH', 'TRADING MADE EASY', 'REAL TIME & END-OF-DAY TECHNICAL ANALYSIS SOFTWARE FROM INDEXIA', 'CD - ROM GENERATION SERVICE', 'EIS & THE INTERNET', and 'MOVIE TO STAR'.

Advertisement for the Financial Times cruise ship 'MS Caledonian Star' from Singapore to Bali. Includes a map of the route, a 'Brief Itinerary' table, and contact information for Nigel Pullman.



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NEWS: UK

Arms for Iraq Former senior official breaks ranks

Government 'inept' says ex-ambassador

By Jimmy Burns and John Kampfer

A former head of the Foreign Office's Middle East Department yesterday described as "deplorable" what he alleged was a government attempt to undermine the Scott report in advance of its publication.

sent to the main witnesses to the Scott inquiry last year, implying that they were free to respond to the report. But the letter insisted that they co-ordinate a position approved by the government.

ernment policy on arms to Iraq to break ranks with former colleagues. His views, which emerged for the first time yesterday, clash with those of the former foreign secretary Lord Howe, who has been a leading critic of the Scott inquiry.

Railway privatisation Two-year-old disposal of national network suffers its worst blow

Bid disallowed over alleged ticket fraud

Financial Times Reporters

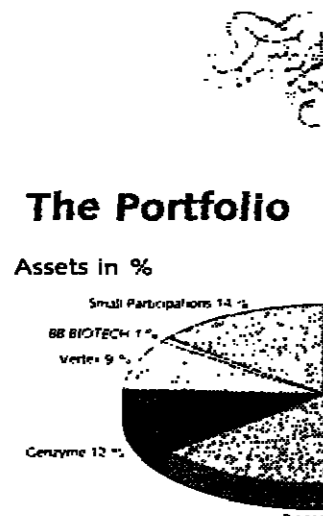
A bid for a railway franchise by managers for the state network has been disallowed after the discovery of an alleged ticket fraud.

British Rail, the national network, has completed the sale of the first of its 13 track renewal and maintenance companies in a deal which marks the start of the next big stage in the rail privatisation programme.

infrastructure services division, but have been reorganised to make them more saleable. Further evidence of private sector interest in railway investments came with an announcement that Hermes, which manages the British Telecommunications and Post Office pension funds, is investing £75m (\$115.5m) in the Daventry international rail freight terminal in central England.

tight timetable for franchising passenger lines. It raises questions about the thoroughness of the vetting of bids and dashes the hopes of what was widely seen as one of the most dynamic management teams to emerge from British Rail.

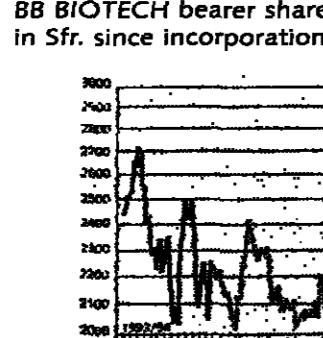
BB BIOTECH BB BIOTECH AG



1995 was a successful year for BB BIOTECH. The BB BIOTECH bearer share price increased by 29% to Sfr. 2,900. This corresponds to + 50 % in US\$ equivalents.

This performance reflects a successful selection of investments. The portfolio of BB BIOTECH has undergone the following changes: the core position in Genentech was sold and several new positions were added.

The Performance



A stream of positive news, mid and end of 1995, fueled the good performance of the biotechnology stocks. The industry's pipeline is now fuller than ever before and, assuming even the most stringent approval criteria, an increasingly large number of new biotech products should reach the market in the near future.

The Board of Directors of BB BIOTECH AG: Dr. Ernst Thomke, Chairman; Dr. Victor Bischoff; Prof. Dr. David Baltimore.

Watchdog to act over Barings

The Securities and Futures Authority, the industry regulator, is preparing to take disciplinary action against several former executives of Barings, the merchant bank which collapsed nearly a year ago.

The SFA is expected to "downgrade" executives - for example, to forbid them from taking certain executive positions for several years - but not necessarily ban them from working in the City.

The authority's lawyers have finished studying its own investigation into 12 executives including Mr Andrew Tuckey, former deputy chairman of Barings, and Mr Peter Norris, former chief executive of the investment banking arm.

No executive has received formal notification of the SFA's intentions, and the SFA said yesterday it had yet to make a final decision on whom, if anyone, to prosecute.

But it is expected that the authority will in the next few weeks instigate disciplinary proceedings against some executives to qualify their licence to practice in the City of London.

The SFA might bar a former Barings executive from acting as a senior executive officer, for instance, or as manager or controller. He or she might still be permitted to take employment as a corporate financier, consultant, or trader.

None of the 12 former Barings executives has been interviewed by the SFA. Tough action without giving defendants the chance to put their case would expose the SFA's action to challenge. SFA sanctions can be appealed against at a tribunal.

Hotels hope for win in soccer tournament

By Clay Harris, Chris Tighe and Ian Hamilton Fozzy

For three days in June, thousands of Dutch football fans will arrive at Luton or Birmingham in the morning, watch their team play in a European championship match, and fly straight home that night.

But Mr Steve Double of the FA said: "We just don't want people to be unreasonable about it." Mr Laurence Bresh, of the tourist board, said that any suggestion of hotels lifting rates dramatically would be "unacceptable".

as I'm concerned," said Mr Arend de Roeber, the owner of Roeber, an Amsterdam-based travel agency which is arranging travel for the Dutch national team. "In some cities the football will bring fans for just six or seven nights out of 365 days a year. In turnover terms it means very little but it does create a negative image."

was one reason why hotels were taking a rigorous line with groups by asking for sizeable deposits earlier than usual. Hotels were wary of sudden block cancellations from an eliminated country.

Moore's University. Finding accommodation for fans without bookings will be co-ordinated by the Merseyside Tourism and Conference Bureau. Hotels within 80km have asked to be put on its lists.

UK NEWS DIGEST

Jersey to compete with Caribbean

Couples seeking a quick island wedding will be able to include Jersey as a possible location from next year. The island's government announced plans to change its marriage law to allow people to wed after only two days' residency instead of the 19 days now required.

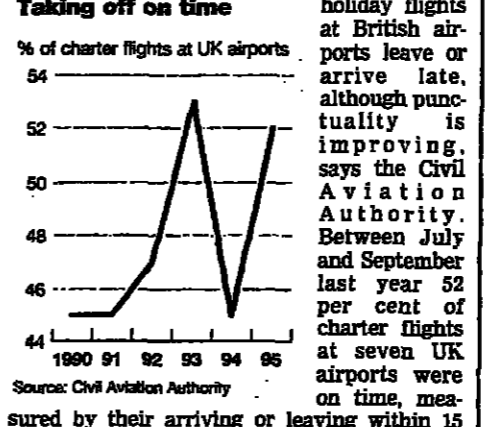
Yard raises 'good price'

Mr Peter de Savary, the entrepreneur, has bought the 160-year-old business of Holman's Ship Repairs in south-west England. The family-owned yard in Penzance went into administrative receivership just before Christmas.

Latest contracts

Bundy Asia Pacific, the automotive and refrigeration components joint venture between Britain's Ty and Tubemakers of Australia, is investing \$3m in a 75 per cent stake in a new tube manufacturing plant in China.

Holiday flights miss times



Shooting ban: The government placed a 10-day ban on the shooting of wild ducks and geese. Ministers decided that the cold weather was posing enough of a threat to the survival of wildfowl without the risk of being shot down by sportsmen.

Drought warning: The Northern England city of Manchester, famous for its frequent long periods of rain, has been one of the driest urban areas in Europe in the past 10 months.



Small text at the bottom of the page containing various notices and contact information.

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COMMODITIES AND AGRICULTURE

WEEK IN THE MARKETS

Supply tightness lifts coffee

Renewed concern about nearby supply tightness in the world coffee market fuelled a sharp rally in the London Commodity Exchange robusta contract towards the end of this week. An early return of US investment fund buying was followed by a mid-week downturn as traders reacted against "overcooked" market conditions, and on Wednesday the second position May delivery price slipped to \$1.62 a tonne, down \$0.02 from the end of last week. On Thursday, however, the mood changed in response to the result of a Brazilian domestic coffee auction, which tended to confirm that the world's dominant producer's immediately available supplies remained uncomfortably tight. Traders also noted a dearth of fresh sales from producers in other Latin American countries and in Asia as the price climbed to \$1.77 a tonne at yesterday's close. The supply concerns were provided by a widening of the March/May price spread. The "normal" situation in futures markets is for nearby values to be at discounts to forwards, reflecting the cost of holding physical material (storage, insurance and lost interest). When spot supplies are tight this can reverse into a premium, or "backwardation", which has been the case in the coffee market for some time. The March/May spread narrowed last week at \$88 a tonne, this narrowed to \$80 on Wednesday before moving out again to \$88 yesterday. Traders told the Reuters news agency yesterday that prices appeared to be building a base for another short-term upward burst. "Over the very short-term, the next month or so, the contract is likely to attempt another push up," said one. The last upsurge peaked at the end of January when worry

over frost and rain damage to Mexican and Central American crops drove the March contract (then the second position) to a 2 1/2-year high of \$2,200 a tonne, \$25 above yesterday's closing current level. Base metals contracts on the London Metal Exchange had a mixed week, with aluminium and tin following the cautious rise in copper but nickel, zinc and lead all ending lower. As three months delivery copper rose \$10 yesterday to \$2,559.50 a tonne, up \$13 on the week, traders were struck with

the contract's continuing inability to break through the \$2,550 barrier, in spite of the announcement yesterday of a larger-than-expected fall in LME warehouse stocks. "Prices did not get any solid boost from the stock draw this morning despite the fact that the fall was almost double expectations of approximately 2,000 tonnes," commented London broker GNI said in its daily market report. Aluminium did a little better, ending up \$10 on the day and \$39 on the week at \$1,639.50 a tonne for three months delivery. Traders told Reuters that the market was underpinned by news that flooding had slowed power generation at the Bonneville Power Authority dams, which serve smelting capacity in the US north-west.

The gold market surrendered a large part of its recent advance this week with the London Bullion Market price ending \$9.90 lower at \$405.50 a troy ounce. But the bulls were not despairing. They argued that a substantial "correction" was needed following January's near-\$30 rise. "In a bull market you can get some quite nasty moves down," one dealer told Reuters, adding that much of the recent selling was by professionals. Richard Mooney

BASE METALS

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Metal, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Aluminium, Lead, Zinc, Tin, Copper, Nickel, Silver, Gold.

LME WAREHOUSE STOCKS

Table with columns: Metal, Stock, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Aluminium, Copper, Nickel, Zinc, Tin.

PRECIOUS METALS

Table with columns: Metal, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Gold, Silver, Platinum, Palladium.

ENERGY

Table with columns: Fuel, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Crude Oil, Heating Oil, Gas Oil.

PRECIOUS METALS

Table with columns: Metal, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Gold, Silver, Platinum, Palladium.

Precious Metals continued

Table with columns: Metal, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Gold, Silver, Platinum, Palladium.

ENERGY

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PRECIOUS METALS

Table with columns: Metal, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Gold, Silver, Platinum, Palladium.

GRAINS AND OIL SEEDS

Table with columns: Grain, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Wheat, Corn, Soybeans.

SOFTS

Table with columns: Soft, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Coffee, Cocoa, Sugar.

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MEAT AND LIVESTOCK

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LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Table with columns: Option, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Aluminium, Copper, Nickel, Zinc, Tin.

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WEEKLY PRICE CHANGES

Table with columns: Commodity, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Gold, Silver, Copper, Nickel, Zinc, Tin, Wheat, Corn, Soybeans.

WORLD BOND PRICES

Table with columns: Country, Bond, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, UK.

ECONOMIC DIARY - FORWARD EVENTS

TODAY: National Savings results (January). TOMORROW: Elections in Chad. MONDAY: Producer prices (January). European Union (EU) finance ministers meet in Brussels. European Parliament in plenary session in Strasbourg (until February 16). Japanese markets closed for public holiday. Belgian government holds talks with employers and unions on measures to boost employment in Brussels. Iowa holds Republican elections caucus. Portuguese budget presented to parliament. TUESDAY: Acquisitions and mergers involving UK companies (fourth quarter). Capital issues and redemptions (January). New construction orders (December). New Zealand budget policy statement. BP results. WEDNESDAY: Labour market statistics: claimant unemployment by age and duration and unfilled vacancies (January provisional); average earnings index (December provisional); employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes, training pro-

US INTEREST RATES

Table with columns: Term, Rate, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Treasury Bills, Government Bonds.

BOND FUTURES AND OPTIONS

Table with columns: Bond, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Treasury, Government Bonds.

US INTEREST RATES

Table with columns: Term, Rate, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Treasury Bills, Government Bonds.

LONG GILT FUTURES OPTIONS

Table with columns: Option, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes Gilt Futures.

FT-ACTUARIES FIXED INTEREST INDICES

Table with columns: Index, Value, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes UK Gilt, FT Actuaries.

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UK GILTS PRICES

Table with columns: Gilt, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol. Includes UK Gilt.

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UK GILTS PRICES. Table with columns: Gilt, Price, Change, High, Low, Vol.

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CURRENCIES AND MONEY

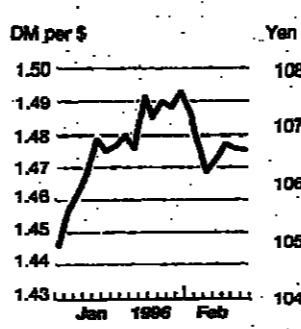
MARKETS REPORT

Dollar steady

By Philip Gawith

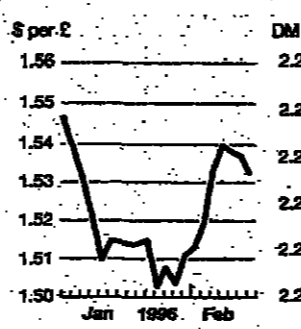
The dollar yesterday put on a steady showing in the currency markets despite concern that the fall in German interest rates might be less than previously expected. Comments from Mr Omar Issing, the influential Bundesbank director, that the January M3 money supply figure might be distorted were taken by the market as preparation for a poor figure which could delay monetary easing. The dollar rallied off intra-day lows after the Issing comments to close in London at DM1.4774, from DM1.4762. Against the yen it closed at ¥106.965, from ¥106.845. The French franc was an early focus of attention following rumours, later denied, that Mr Jean Arthus, the finance minister, would be resigning. The franc fell below FFf4.450 at one stage, but then recovered its poise to finish little

Dollar



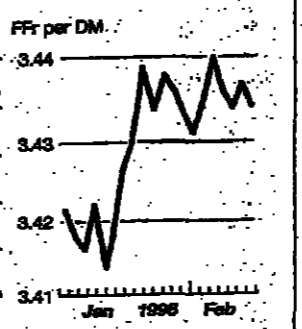
Source: FT Edm

Sterling



Source: FT Edm

D-Mark



Source: FT Edm

changed at FFf4.435 against the D-Mark. Elsewhere in Europe, the lira fell towards the bottom of its recent ranges amid optimism that a new government would be formed over the weekend. The lira finished at L1,061 against the D-Mark, from L1,067. In general, it was a quiet day with most currencies stuck in narrow ranges. There was little news to shift prices.

cal fall-out next week when the controversial Scott report into the "Arms for Iraq" affair is released. The Finnish markka attracted attention, with the central bank intervening to stop a sharp fall. The markka was a Fmk3.131/40 against the D-Mark from Fmk3.114/10 on Thursday. Concern about the economy underlies the current weakness. Mr Markus Lusser, president of the Swiss National Bank, said the "excess value" of the Swiss franc appeared to be

being corrected. The rumours about Mr Arthus set the tone for trading in Europe. In the absence of independent reasons for the dollar strength, the weakness of the French franc, which buoyed the D-Mark, was enough to push the dollar lower. Mr Issing's comments then added further impetus to this trend, although analysts were sceptical about whether they warranted much attention. The rally in the dollar later in the session was also the

result of a rumour - this time, that the US Federal Reserve was supporting the US bond market. This prompted a rally in bonds and the dollar. Mr Malcolm Barr, economist at Malmison Bank in London, said the rumour-driven trading conditions showed that the day had been "dominated by inter-bank activity, without volume, rather than any big-picture developments." Mr Adrian Cunningham, senior international economist at UBS in London, said the dollar was being hurt by the belief

WORLD INTEREST RATES

Table with columns: Country, Over night, One month, Three months, Six months, One year, Lomb. Dis. Rate, New York. Rows include Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland, US, Japan.

Table with columns: LIBOR FT London, Interbank fixing, week ago, US Dollar CDs, week ago, ECU Linked De, week ago, SDR Linked De, week ago.

Table with columns: Euro Currency Interest Rates, Feb 9, Short term, One month, Three months, Six months, One year.

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POUND SPOT FORWARD AGAINST THE POUND

Table with columns: Feb 9, Closing mid-point, Change on day, Bid/offer spread, Day's bid/offer, One month, Three months, One year, Bank of England Index.

DOLLAR SPOT FORWARD AGAINST THE DOLLAR

Table with columns: Feb 9, Closing mid-point, Change on day, Bid/offer spread, Day's bid/offer, One month, Three months, One year, JP Morgan Index.

EMIS EURO CURRENCY UNIT RATES

Table with columns: Feb 9, Euro unit, Rate against Euro, Change on day, % +/- from previous day, % spread, Div. yield.

CROSS RATES AND DERIVATIVES

Table with columns: EXCHANGE CROSS RATES, Feb 9, Bid, Offer, DM, £, L, FI, Nkr, Es, Pta, Sfr, ¥, CS, S, Y, Ecu.

UK INTEREST RATES

Table with columns: LONDON MONEY RATES, Feb 9, Over-night, 7 days notice, One month, Three months, Six months, One year.

BASE LENDING RATES

Table with columns: Bank Name, Rate, Bank Name, Rate, Bank Name, Rate.

THREE MONTH STERLING FUTURES (LFFE) £500,000 points of 100%

Table with columns: Mar, Jun, Sep, Open, Settle price, Change, High, Low, Est. vol, Open int.

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The Financial Times plans to publish a Survey on Peru on Thursday, March 7 1996.

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AUTHORISED UNIT TRUSTS

Table listing various unit trusts such as Starting Fund Managers Ltd, Credit Suisse, and others, with columns for fund names, managers, and prices.

Guide to pricing of Authorised Unit Trusts. Compiled with the assistance of AUTIF SS. Includes sections on Initial Charge, Historic Pricing, Buying Price, Selling Price, Treatment of Manager's Periodic Charge, and Exit Charges.

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Main table containing various fund categories such as FT Cityline Unit Trusts, FT Cityline Property Unit Trusts, FT Cityline International Unit Trusts, FT Cityline Life Assurance, FT Cityline General Accident, FT Cityline Life Assurance Co Ltd, FT Cityline General Accident Co Ltd, FT Cityline Life Assurance Co Ltd, FT Cityline General Accident Co Ltd, FT Cityline Life Assurance Co Ltd, FT Cityline General Accident Co Ltd.

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Table of financial data for various fund categories including 'Job Life Assurance Co Plc - Contd.', 'Lombard & Yorkville Assurance Society', and 'Lombard & Yorkville Assurance Society'.

Table of financial data for various fund categories including 'Hartford Life Ltd', 'Prudential Corporate Pension Funds - Contd.', and 'Scottish Amicable - Contd.'.

Table of financial data for various fund categories including 'Scottish Widows', 'Standard Life Assurance Co Ltd', and 'Sun Life of Canada'.

Table of financial data for various fund categories including 'Sun Life of Canada', 'Sun Life of Canada', and 'Sun Life of Canada'.

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MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Table of financial data for various fund categories including 'Sun Life of Canada', 'Sun Life of Canada', and 'Sun Life of Canada'.

Vertical text on the left margin: 'its rers are il Taylor', 'las f o ble', 'TYNE WEAR'.

Vertical text on the right margin: 'spect', 'coms', 'd at', 'onal', 'per', 'tion is', 'an', 'and', 'al', 'fairly', 'take', 'to', 'ed', 'in', 'into', 'the UK', 'tivity', 'st', 'ry's', 'for', 'de', 'ff', '29', '30-31', '32-33', '34-35', '36', '37', '38', '39', '40', '41', '42', '43', '44', '45', '46', '47', '48', '49', '50', '51', '52', '53', '54', '55', '56', '57', '58', '59', '60', '61', '62', '63', '64', '65', '66', '67', '68', '69', '70', '71', '72', '73', '74', '75', '76', '77', '78', '79', '80', '81', '82', '83', '84', '85', '86', '87', '88', '89', '90', '91', '92', '93', '94', '95', '96', '97', '98', '99', '100'.

FT MANAGED FUNDS SERVICE

FT Cityline Unit Trust Prices are available over the telephone. Call the FT Cityline Help Desk on (+44 171) 673 4378 for more details.

OFFSHORE AND OVERSEAS

BERMUDA (SIB RECOGNISED)

Table listing Bermuda (SIB RECOGNISED) funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

BERMUDA (REGULATED)\*\*

Table listing Bermuda (REGULATED)\*\* funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

GUERNSEY (SIB RECOGNISED)

Table listing Guernsey (SIB RECOGNISED) funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

GUERNSEY (REGULATED)\*\*

Table listing Guernsey (REGULATED)\*\* funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

Table listing Royal Bank of Canada US FI Mgrs Ltd. funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

GUERNSEY (REGULATED)\*\*

Table listing Guernsey (REGULATED)\*\* funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

GUERNSEY (SIB RECOGNISED)

Table listing Guernsey (SIB RECOGNISED) funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

IRELAND (SIB RECOGNISED)

Table listing Ireland (SIB RECOGNISED) funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

IRELAND (REGULATED)\*\*

Table listing Ireland (REGULATED)\*\* funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

Table listing Chemical Ireland Fund Administration Ltd. funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

ISLE OF MAN (REGULATED)\*\*

Table listing Isle of Man (REGULATED)\*\* funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

ISLE OF MAN (SIB RECOGNISED)

Table listing Isle of Man (SIB RECOGNISED) funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

ISLE OF MAN (REGULATED)\*\*

Table listing Isle of Man (REGULATED)\*\* funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

Table listing Abn-Amro Global Funds Ltd (2000) funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

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Table listing Isle of Man (REGULATED)\*\* funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

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ISLE OF MAN (REGULATED)\*\*

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Table listing John Goveat Management (Jersey) Ltd. funds with columns for Fund Name, Unit Price, and Change.

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مكتبة الأصيل

FT MANAGED FUNDS SERVICE

FT Cityline Unit Trust Prices are available over the telephone. Call the FT Cityline Help Desk on (+44 171) 873 4376 for more details.

Main table containing financial data for various funds, including columns for fund names, prices, and performance metrics. Includes sub-sections like 'OFFSHORE INSURANCES' and 'OTHER OFFSHORE FUNDS'.

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Vertical text on the right margin: 'expect becomes at tional 5 per rtion is han ic and tal t ors Fairly make id to ted, ter in rt into the UK rivity roy any's y ox for ade staff e Bk 4 an 3 ad 21 2 y the who com ned than ould olds dnt, plac 1 a ntrol, a pec- your roup pre s in will row the'

MANAGED FUNDS NOTES: This page is a summary of the information contained in the prospectus... It is not intended to constitute an offer of any of the funds mentioned in this advertisement...

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES (Feb 9 / US\$)

(# per share)

Table of stock prices for various US companies including AIG, Amgen, Amstar, and others.

EUROPE

AUSTRIA (Feb 9 / Sch)

Table of stock prices for Austrian companies like Alpine, Austria, and others.

CANADA (Feb 9 / Can \$)

Table of stock prices for Canadian companies like Alcan, Bell, and others.

FINLAND (Feb 9 / Mark)

Table of stock prices for Finnish companies like Nokia, and others.

FRANCE (Feb 9 / Fr)

Table of stock prices for French companies like Air France, Bouygues, and others.

GERMANY (Feb 9 / DM)

Table of stock prices for German companies like Daimler-Benz, Siemens, and others.

NETHERLANDS (Feb 9 / Fl)

Table of stock prices for Dutch companies like Akzo, and others.

SPAIN (Feb 9 / Ptas)

Table of stock prices for Spanish companies like Iberia, and others.

SWEDEN (Feb 9 / Kronor)

Table of stock prices for Swedish companies like Volvo, and others.

SWITZERLAND (Feb 9 / Fr)

Table of stock prices for Swiss companies like Nestle, and others.

UNITED KINGDOM (Feb 9 / Pounds)

Table of stock prices for UK companies like British Airways, and others.

WEST GERMANY (Feb 9 / DM)

Table of stock prices for West German companies like Volkswagen, and others.

YUGOSLAVIA (Feb 9 / Dinars)

Table of stock prices for Yugoslavian companies like Zvezdara, and others.

AFRICA

AFRICA (Feb 9 / Rand)

(# per share)

Table of stock prices for African companies like Anglo American, and others.

ASIA (Feb 9 / US\$)

Table of stock prices for Asian companies like Samsung, and others.

AUSTRALIA (Feb 9 / A\$)

Table of stock prices for Australian companies like BHP, and others.

BRAZIL (Feb 9 / R\$)

Table of stock prices for Brazilian companies like Vale, and others.

CHINA (Feb 9 / Yuan)

Table of stock prices for Chinese companies like PetroChina, and others.

HONG KONG (Feb 9 / HK\$)

Table of stock prices for Hong Kong companies like HSBC, and others.

INDONESIA (Feb 9 / Rp)

Table of stock prices for Indonesian companies like Garuda, and others.

JAPAN (Feb 9 / Yen)

Table of stock prices for Japanese companies like Toyota, and others.

KOREA (Feb 9 / Won)

Table of stock prices for Korean companies like Samsung, and others.

NEW ZEALAND (Feb 9 / NZ\$)

Table of stock prices for New Zealand companies like Air New Zealand, and others.

PHILIPPINES (Feb 9 / P\$)

Table of stock prices for Philippine companies like Philippine Airlines, and others.

SINGAPORE (Feb 9 / S\$)

Table of stock prices for Singapore companies like Singapore Airlines, and others.

TAIWAN (Feb 9 / NT\$)

Table of stock prices for Taiwanese companies like TSMC, and others.

THAILAND (Feb 9 / Baht)

Table of stock prices for Thai companies like Thai Airways, and others.

US INDICES

US INDICES (Feb 9 / US\$)

(# per share)

Table of US stock indices including Dow Jones, S&P 500, and others.

NEW YORK ACTIVE STOCKS

Table of active stock trading in New York.

NEW YORK TRADING ACTIVITY

Table of trading activity in New York.

NEW YORK STOCKS

Table of stock prices for various NY companies.

NEW YORK BONDS

Table of bond prices for various NY companies.

NEW YORK FUTURES

Table of futures prices for various NY companies.

INDEX FUTURES

INDEX FUTURES (Feb 9 / US\$)

(# per share)

Table of index futures prices including CAC-40, DAX, and others.

INDEX FUTURES (Feb 9 / US\$)

(# per share)

Table of index futures prices including Nikkei, Hang Seng, and others.

INDEX FUTURES (Feb 9 / US\$)

(# per share)

Table of index futures prices including Nikkei, Hang Seng, and others.

Advertisement for Rockwell avionics, featuring the text 'Every major world airline flies with Rockwell avionics' and the Rockwell logo.

PACIFIC

PACIFIC (Feb 9 / US\$)

(# per share)

Table of stock prices for Pacific region companies like Boeing, and others.

PACIFIC (Feb 9 / US\$)

(# per share)

Table of stock prices for Pacific region companies like Boeing, and others.

PACIFIC (Feb 9 / US\$)

(# per share)

Table of stock prices for Pacific region companies like Boeing, and others.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, partially cut off, with text including 'AMERICA', 'EUROPE', and 'ASIA PACIFIC'.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom right of the page.



WORLD STOCK MARKETS

AMERICA

Profit taking hits Dow in mid-session

Wall Street

The US stock market finally ran out of momentum on a bout of profit taking halfway through the day, slipping back precipitately after starting the session with another strong rise, writes Richard Waters in New York.

while the Nasdaq index was trading at 1091.41, a fall of 1.76. The early morning rise was supported by a rally in the bond market, which rose on reports that the Federal Reserve was buying bonds. The benchmark 30-year bond rose by half a point before falling back to trade at 98 1/2, a gain of an eighth of a point, for a yield of 6.073 per cent.

Chevron was 5/8 higher at \$54.70. General Motors, meanwhile, was trading 3/4 higher at \$52.75; this came against a broader rally in the automobile sector. Chrysler's shares jumped on news that the company had resolved its dispute with Mr Kirk Kerkorian and would increase its stock repurchase programme to \$2bn this year and \$1bn in 1997.

Canada

Toronto was mixed in midday trade as profit taking in most sectors outweighed gains in communications and consumer products. The TSE-300 Composite index was off 5.68 by noon at 5,034.85 in volume of 40.4m shares.

Technology stocks were among the day's best performers. Gennum jumped C\$3 to C\$37, off a high of C\$40.

Latin America

GARACAS continued to soar with no sign of a diminution of foreign interest. By late afternoon the IBC index was up 171.94 or 6.7 per cent at 2,741.24.

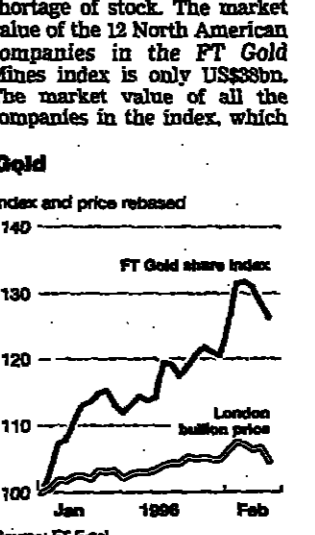
Gold shares scramble sends prices soaring

Kenneth Gooding on bullion and the gearing effect

The 12 gold mining groups that make up the North American sector of the Financial Times Gold Mines Index are trading at 63 times earnings and a dividend yield of 0.65 per cent. Similar multiples are being asked for companies in other sectors of the index: the average p/e of the 16 African groups is 37.3 and the dividend yield 2.7 per cent, while the five Australasian companies are on 41.7 and 2.1 per cent respectively.

There is another reason why gold mining shares move upwards so sharply when the bullion price rises - there is a shortage of stock. The market value of the 12 North American companies in the FT Gold Mines index is only US\$58bn. The market value of all the companies in the index, which

is up by 42 per cent since 1996 began, while the other two sectors have risen by 18 per cent. This is because, in contrast to the Australasian and North American groups, most of the South African companies have not been hedging or selling their gold forward. Hedging has the advantage of ensuring a level of revenue and cash flow but it does involve giving up some of the benefit when the bullion price rises.



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EUROPE

Bunds recovery aids Frankfurt bourse

A sharp recovery in bunds left FRANKFURT positive; the Dax index bounced off a 2,400.33 low to close 23.58 higher at an all-time high of 2,435.07, down 1 per cent on the week.

The bunds move allowed Allianz to recover DM30 to DM2,769 after two days of weakness; Deutsche Bank rose DML47, or 2 per cent to DM74.40 by Bayernhypo up 7 1/2 pt at DM38.50.

Turnover rose from DM9bn to DM9.5bn. Among the day's big winners, Fresenius profits put on another DM8, or 4.9 per cent at DM171 on the prospects for its dialysis equipment merger with W.R. Grace, of the US. Schwarz Pharma gained DM3.70 to DM80 on its growth forecast for 1996; and SAP pre-closed DM3.75, or 3.9 per cent better at DM233.75 as analysts said that the computer software group was much less sensitive than some to US worries about high tech stocks.

PARIS staged a late recovery as bunds and futures recovered; in a session reduced by about 90 minutes because of a technical problem, the CAC-40 index added 4.49 to 1,980.55, down 3 per cent over the week, in a turnover of FF4,581.5m.

BUDAPEST shot forward to an all-time high as a number of leading companies with heavy index weights were well supported. The BUX index rose 95.20 to 2,263.29. Gains were seen in the pharmaceuticals manufacturers, Richter, and Egis, while Inter-Europe Bank and Primagaz, the gas company, also did well. The Budapest stock market is the smallest of the east European emergers, as ranked by market capitalisation of about \$2bn.

ASIA PACIFIC

Nikkei below 21,000, Bombay carries on

Share prices lost ground for the first time in four trading days as profit taking by domestic institutions, writes Erika Terazono in Tokyo.

The Nikkei 225 average fell 183.48 to 20,934.82, up a fraction on the week but below the 21,000 level it breached on Thursday for the first time in 19 months. It traded between 20,892.37 and 21,156.77 on position adjustment trading ahead of the long weekend.

High-technology stocks weakened on profit taking. Sony fell Y200 to Y8,450 on reports of its downward revision of net profits for the current business year. Hitachi lost Y80 to Y1,080 and Toshiba declined Y12 to Y880.

earnings at Petron and San Miguel at the composite index dropped 20.92 to 2,894.87, 3.5 per cent down on the week. Petron lost 25 centavos at 12.75 pesos, and San Miguel B 3.50 pesos at \$2.50.

AFRICA

South Africa

Johnsburg was easier after a sharp rally which saw gold shares up, then fell sharply, while industrials refused to take direction from firm US stocks. The overall index was off 8.6 to 6,873.9, industrials lost 9.7 to 8,484.9 and golds slipped 17.0 to 1,805.7.

However, there is no such thing as an "average" company and the various sectors of the Gold Index have not moved in step as the gold bullion price advanced. The big upward impetus for the index came from the African sector, which

Between them account for 60 per cent of global gold production, is only \$2bn. So when gold mining shares become the flavour of the month, there is too much money chasing too few shares.

This can have some interesting results. For example, it is not often that a company the size of RTZ-CRA, the world's biggest mining company, moves up by 3.9 per cent in one day. But it did just that on February 1 as some desperate UK fund managers attempted to jump on the gold bandwagon, searching for homes for their investors' cash. Yet only 9 per cent of RTZ-CRA's turnover comes from gold; double that comes from copper, a metal whose price, most ana-

AMSTERDAM

FT-SE Actuaries Share Indices

Table with columns: Index Name, Date, Open, High, Low, Close, Change, % Change. Includes FTSE 100, FTSE 200, FTSE 1000, and various regional indices.

Table with columns: Index Name, Date, Open, High, Low, Close, Change, % Change. Includes FTSE 100, FTSE 200, FTSE 1000, and various regional indices.

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Table with columns: Index Name, Date, Open, High, Low, Close, Change, % Change. Includes FTSE 100, FTSE 200, FTSE 1000, and various regional indices.

LONDON EQUITIES

RISES AND FALLS

Table showing rises and falls in London equities, including British Funds, Other Foreign Interest, and various sectors.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table showing traditional options for various companies like British Airways, British Telecom, etc.

LONDON RECENT ISSUES: EQUITIES

Table showing London recent issues in equities, including issue size, price, and yield.

FT/S&P ACTUARIES WORLD INDICES

Table showing FT/S&P Actuaries World Indices for various countries and regions, including Australia, Belgium, Brazil, etc.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Table showing world stock markets for various countries and regions, including Australia, Belgium, Brazil, etc.

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LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE: Dealings

Details of business done shown below have been taken with consent from the London Stock Exchange Official List and should not be reproduced without permission.

Details relate to those securities not included in the FT Share Information Services. Unless otherwise indicated, prices are in pence. The prices are those at which the business was done in the 24 hours up to 5 pm on Thursday and settled through the Stock Exchange Talisman system, they are not in order of execution but in ascending order which denotes the day's highest and lowest dealings.

For those securities in which no business was recorded in Thursday's Official List, the latest recorded business in the four previous days is given with the relevant dates. † Bargains at special prices. ‡ Bargains done the previous day.

British Funds, etc

Treasury 13 1/2% £6,000,000 12/28 Exchange 10 1/2% £5,000,000 12/28

Corporation and County Stocks

London County 2 1/2% £5,000,000 20/20 (12/28) City of London 1 1/2% £5,000,000 20/20 (12/28)

UK Public Bonds

Metropolitan Water Metroplan Water 3 1/2% £3,000,000 12/28 (12/28)

Foreign Stocks, Bonds, etc (coupons payable in London)

Greco-Indomina 6% £6,000,000 12/28 (12/28) Greece (1995) 6% £6,000,000 12/28 (12/28)

SIFR PLC ADR (1:1) £20.2 Bank of International Commerce & Co. 27 (12/28) Bank of America 12 1/2% £5,000,000 12/28 (12/28)

HSEB Hedges PLC 11 1/2% Subord Bds 2002 (12/28) Halifax Building Society 8 1/2% Perm Int Bearing Shs 2000-00 20/20 (12/28)

Maris & Spencer PLC ADR (1:1) \$40.32 (12/28) Marshall PLC 10% Cum Div 12/28 (12/28)

Reliance International PLC 5 1/2% 2nd Cum Div 12/28 (12/28) Rediff and Colman PLC 5 1/2% Cum Div 12/28 (12/28)

Total Group PLC 4 1/2% Perm Div 12/28 (12/28) Transocean Energy PLC 7 1/2% Cum Div 12/28 (12/28)

Capital Gearing Trust PLC £1,000,000 (12/28) Darwin Income Growth Shs £1,000,000 (12/28)

Sterling Issues by Overseas Borrowers

European Investment Bank 9 1/2% £5,000,000 (12/28) European Investment Bank 9 1/2% £5,000,000 (12/28)

Listed Companies (excluding Investment Trusts)

ASH Capital Finance PLC 1 1/2% £5,000,000 (12/28) Ash Capital Finance PLC 1 1/2% £5,000,000 (12/28)

FT-SE ACTUARIES INDICES

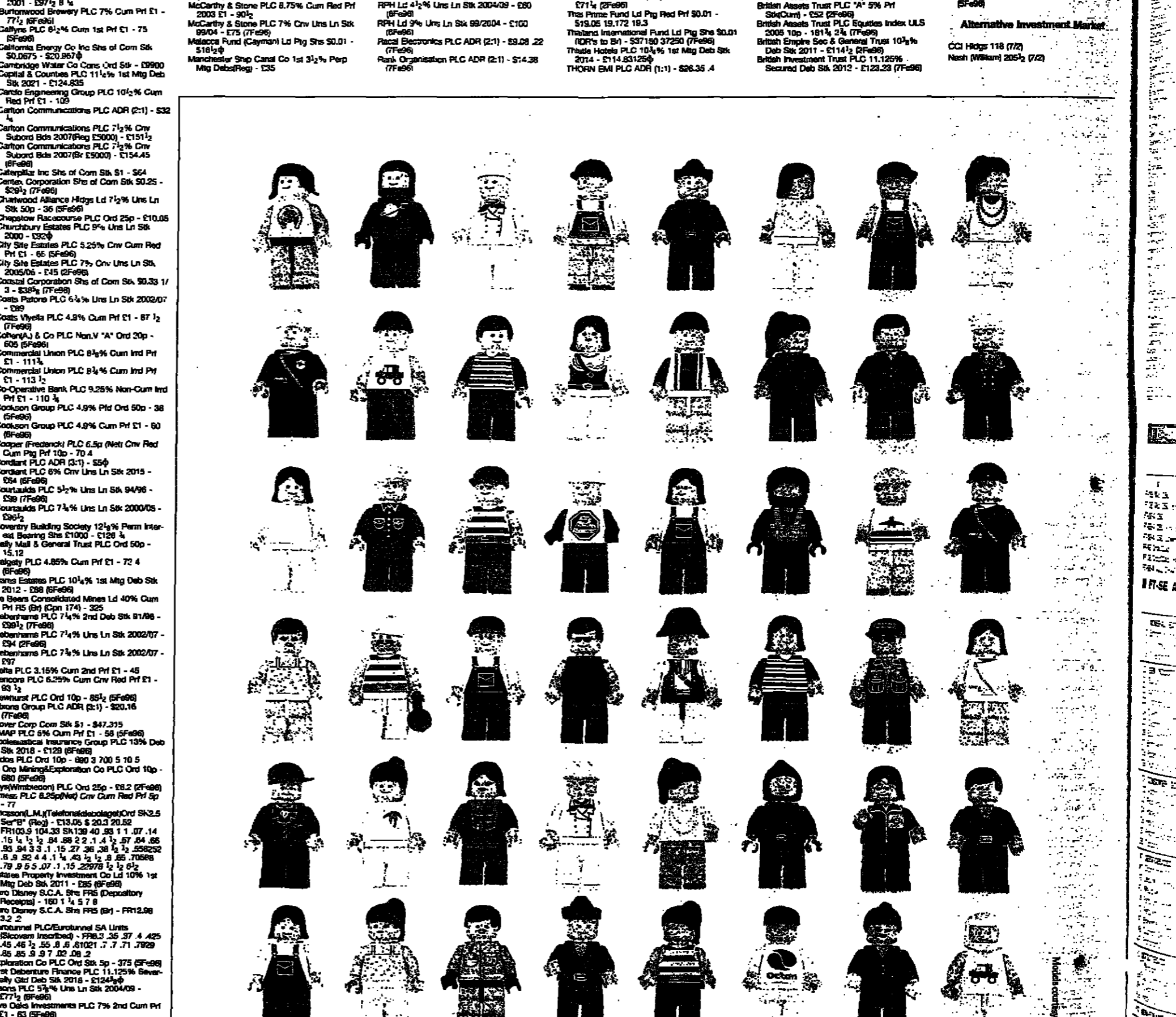
The FT-SE Actuaries Share Indices are calculated by FT-SE International Limited in conjunction with the Faculty of Actuaries and the Institute of Actuaries.

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Constant lists and additional information on all the FT-SE International index products are available from: FT-SE International Limited, The Podium, St. Alphege House, 2 Fore Street, London, EC2Y 5DA.

Spot the Refugee



There he is. Fourth row, second from the left. The one with the moustache. Obvious really. Maybe not. The unsavoury-looking character you're looking at is more likely to be your average neighbour-slob with a grubby vest and a weekend's stubble on his chin. And the real refugee could just as easily be the clean-cut fellow on his left. You see, refugees are just like you and me. Except for one thing. Everything they once had has been left behind. Home, family, possessions, all gone. They have nothing. And nothing is all they'll ever have unless we all extend a helping hand. We know you can't give them back the things that others have taken away.

We're not even asking for money (though every cent certainly helps). But we are asking that you keep an open mind. And a smile of welcome. It may not seem much. But to a refugee it can mean everything. UNHCR is a strictly humanitarian organization funded only by voluntary contributions. Currently it is responsible for more than 19 million refugees around the world. UNHCR Public Information, P.O. Box 2500, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland.

UNHCR logo with text 'United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' and Arabic text 'مكناص النجف' in a stylized box at the bottom.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

MARKET REPORT

UK equities fail to narrow gap with US shares

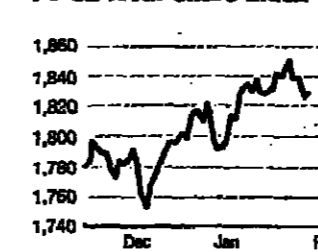
By Peter John
If London is Wall Street's puddle it has obviously slipped its leash.
While the Dow Jones Industrial Average lifted nearly 200 points over the UK trading week, London put on a dismal performance which saw the Footsie fall by 1.7 per cent.

the same bizarre trend. UK stocks were marked higher at the start following Thursday's record-breaking rise on the Dow. However, there was little underlying enthusiasm and news of a rise in sales on the high street was viewed as undermining the chances of another interest rate cut rather than as an encouraging economic signal.

couple of classic Friday rumours. One was that the Scott inquiry into arms sales to Iraq might force at least one political resignation next week, and possibly three. If that were the case a snap election could be prompted and that would lead to a great deal of market uncertainty.

forward another 30 points in the first two hours of trading and a strong performance by Treasury bonds helped the UK 10-year gilt recover from earlier lows to end the day marginally higher.

FT-SE-A All-Share Index



Equity shares traded

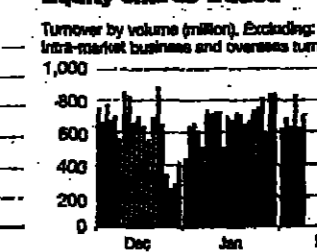


Table with indices and ratios, including FT-SE Mid 250, FT-SE-A 350, FT-SE-A All-Share, FT-SE-A All-Share yield, FT Ordinary index, FT-SE-A Non Fine p/e, FT-SE 100 Fut Mar, 10 yr Gilt yield, Long gilt/equity yield ratio.

TRADING VOLUME IN MAJOR STOCKS

Table listing trading volume in major stocks with columns for stock name, volume, and change.

EQUITY FUTURES AND OPTIONS TRADING

Stock index futures moved ahead in the heaviest volume of the week, with the FT-SE 100 March contract gaining 10 points, writes Jeffrey Brown.
After a four-day retreat of 90 points it was an encouraging performance, said dealers.

Setback for media shares

Media group Pearson, a powerful performer this year on the back of persistent talk of corporate activity, fell back yesterday following news of its £37m publishing deal.
Early trading saw Pearson, which owns the Financial Times, continue to move forward. But the 10m news-flash that the group was to buy HarperCollins Educational cut a dramatic swathe through sentiment.

NEW 52 WEEK HIGHS AND LOWS

Table listing new 52 week highs and lows for various stocks.

FT-SE Actuaries Share Indices

Table showing FT-SE Actuaries Share Indices for various sectors.

The UK Series

Table showing The UK Series for various sectors.

GEC slides

GEC came off 7% to 853/4p in 8.9m traded, to emerge as the day's worst performing Footsie stock. Some brokers have been getting slightly nervous about the electronics giant, given a strong recent run for the shares.

CHIEF PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY

Table listing chief price changes for various stocks.

FT-SE Actuaries All-Share

Table showing FT-SE Actuaries All-Share for various sectors.

Hourly movements

Table showing hourly movements for various stocks.

FT-SE Actuaries 350 industry baskets

Table showing FT-SE Actuaries 350 industry baskets.

OFEX FACILITY

Table showing OFEX Facility for various companies.

World Coal Industry advertisement with contact information for Anthony Hayes.

Hourly movements table continued with columns for open, high, low, and close.

FT-SE Actuaries 350 industry baskets table continued with columns for basket name and values.

FT-SE Actuaries All-Share table continued with columns for sector and values.

Small print and legal disclaimers at the bottom of the page.

LONDON SHARE SERVICE

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Table listing companies in the Alcoholic Beverages sector, including names like Guinness, Heineken, and Carlsberg, with their respective share prices and changes.

BANKS, MERCHANT

Table listing banks and merchant companies such as HSBC, Citigroup, and Royal Bank of Canada, with their share prices and changes.

BANKS, RETAIL

Table listing retail banks including Abbey National, Lloyds Bank, and NatWest, with their share prices and changes.

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Table listing breweries, pubs, and restaurants such as Carlsberg, Heineken, and Wm. & A. R. G. & Co., with their share prices and changes.

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

Table listing companies in the building and construction sector, including Bovis Lend Lease, Bovis Lend Lease Construction, and Bovis Lend Lease Property, with their share prices and changes.

BUILDING MATS. & MERCHANTS

Table listing building materials and merchant companies such as Bunnings, Wickes, and Homebase, with their share prices and changes.

BUILDING MATS. & MERCHANTS - Cont.

Continuation of the Building Materials & Merchants table.

CHEMICALS

Table listing chemical companies like ICI, Shell Chemicals, and British Petroleum, with their share prices and changes.

DISTRIBUTORS

Table listing distributor companies such as Asda, Sainsbury, and Marks & Spencer, with their share prices and changes.

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Table listing diversified industrial companies like Unilever, Nestle, and Anglo Siam, with their share prices and changes.

ELECTRICITY

Table listing electricity companies such as British Energy, EDF Energy, and E.ON Energy, with their share prices and changes.

ELECTRONIC & ELECTRICAL EQPT - Cont.

Continuation of the Electronic & Electrical Equipment table.

ENGINEERING

Table listing engineering companies like BAE Systems, Rolls Royce, and GE Aviation, with their share prices and changes.

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

Table listing engineering and vehicle companies such as Ford, Volkswagen, and Renault, with their share prices and changes.

ELECTRONIC & ELECTRICAL EQPT

Table listing electronic and electrical equipment companies like Philips, Sony, and Hitachi, with their share prices and changes.

EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

Table listing extractive industries companies such as Anglo American, De Beers, and Rio Tinto, with their share prices and changes.

EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES - Cont.

Continuation of the Extractive Industries table.

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Table listing food producer companies like Unilever, Nestle, and Anglo Siam, with their share prices and changes.

GAS DISTRIBUTION

Table listing gas distribution companies such as British Gas, EDF Energy, and E.ON Energy, with their share prices and changes.

HEALTH CARE

Table listing health care companies like AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, and Novartis, with their share prices and changes.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Table listing household goods companies such as Bunnings, Wickes, and Homebase, with their share prices and changes.

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Table listing insurance companies like Aviva, Allianz, and AXA, with their share prices and changes.

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Table listing investment trusts such as Fidelity, Schroders, and Invesco, with their share prices and changes.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS SPLIT CAPITAL

Table listing investment trusts with split capital structures, including names like Fidelity and Schroders.

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Continuation of the Investment Trusts table.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS SPLIT CAPITAL

Continuation of the Investment Trusts Split Capital table.

OTHER INVEST

Table listing other investment companies and funds, including names like Fidelity and Schroders.

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BY TRUSTS SPLIT CAPITAL - Cont.

Table listing various trusts and their financial details, including names like 'The British Trust for Africa' and 'The British Trust for International Development'.

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Table listing leisure and hotel companies such as 'The Rank Group' and 'The Travel Company'.

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Table listing investment companies.

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Table listing property companies.

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Table listing support service companies.

TOBACCO

Table listing tobacco companies.

TRANSPORT

Table listing transport companies.

WATER

Table listing water companies.

GUIDE TO LONDON SHARE SERVICE

Price for the London Share Service delivered by FT Data, a member of the Financial Times Group. Company classifications are based on those used for the FT-SE Actuaries Share Index. The service is available to companies whose shares are regularly traded in the United Kingdom for a fee of £250 a year for each security class, subject to the issuer's discretion.

Advertisement for IndexLink, featuring the phone number 0121 200 2242 and the tagline 'Helping investors help themselves.'

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'expect in lecoms', 'han uc and mal t', 'ors, Fairly make', 'id to red, ter in rt into', 'the UK activity roy just', 'any's y ox for', 'made', 'staff', 'e Sk 4', 'ian 3', '22', '21', '21', '21', 'ed 21', '22', '2', 'e', 'y the who com- mended than holds sinst, plac- a', 'ntro- a, xpe- ivour', 'roup pre- ts in will row s the'.



# Weekend FT

## Till death do us part - or divorce

Andrew Adonis examines why marital breakdown in England is again on the political agenda



**A**h, nowadays people marry as often as they can, don't they? It is most fashionable.

So declares Lady Markby in Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband*, now undergoing a successful revival in London's West End. A century later, the state of marriage could hardly be a more emotive issue in England were Wilde himself championing divorce.

Controversy has come to a head with the government's decision to proceed with divorce reforms abolishing the notion of fault in marriage breakdowns.

It is far from a re-run of the 1960s' debates between social liberals and conservatives. The alignments are new. Conservatives mostly accept that divorce is here to stay, while liberals are alarmed at escalating rates of divorce, single parenthood and the social misery in their train.

Nothing symbolises the angst better than the unlikely character of today's reformer - Lord Mackay, the Lord Chancellor. A devout Scots Presbyterian who claims "I would prefer that spouses remained united until God separates them by death", he has been condemned by a senior Tory peer as "undermining the legal basis of marriage".

He may take some comfort from standing in a long line of spiritually minded reformers dating back to Archbishop Cranmer under Henry VIII in the 16th century. The historical analogies do not end there.

Cranmer wanted a regular system of divorce on grounds of adultery, long desertion, lasting cruelty or "mortal enmity", albeit with stiff penalties, including transportation and loss of fortune, for the guilty parties.

But Henry VIII, able to resolve his own marital problems more expeditiously, did not proceed. Nor did his successors, one of whom had

Cranmer burnt at the stake. Then, as now, governments were reluctant to alienate conservative opinion. Yet because ministers would not act, and marital breakdown was a fact of life, individuals and the legal profession took matters into their own hands.

For the super rich this meant recourse to the ecclesiastical courts and special acts of parliament to annul marriages, a ritual condemned by Lord Chancellor Thurlow in 1778 as "approaching the ludicrous if not the downright ridiculous" (today's reformers condemn the status quo in similar terms). For the middling and poor, whose fortunes and estates were less material, it often meant regulating relationships outside the law.

Not until 1854 did a government begin to reform divorce law to bring it closer to contemporary social attitudes. The resulting 1857 Divorce Act was the last significant reform to be enacted by a government. Legal changes since then - including the 1969 act introducing "no fault" divorce - have been at the behest of backbench MPs. Three forces have been behind them: strong popular support for making divorce easier; nod-and-wink encouragement from ministers; and a stance of constructive neutrality from the Church of England.

The Anglican establishment's attitude to divorce, critical to the process of liberalisation in England, stands in stark contrast to that of the papacy. Ireland, the last European country to legalise divorce, did so only last year, after a long and bitter battle between reformers and the Catholic hierarchy.

By contrast, as early as 1966

the Church of England, in its report *Putting Asunder*, advocated a doctrine of marital breakdown as preferable to that of matrimonial offence. This was a catalyst for the move towards "no fault" divorce, although to blunt the impact the Church said it still wanted the courts to carry out an inquest into the "death of the marriage relationship".

The result was the uneasy compromise of the 1969 act. No fault divorce was permitted, but only after separation of between two and five years. For a "quickie" divorce, available in as little as six months, fault still had to be shown. To avoid the delay most divorces are still on grounds of fault, mainly adultery or unreasonable behaviour.

It is a typically English tale of legal adaptation to social change. By this roundabout route Britain has become the divorce capital of Europe - registering 185,018 divorces in England and Wales in 1993, with the divorce rate now half the marriage rate.

So why is a Tory government proposing further divorce reforms which will make it easier still to dissolve marriages? Therein lies another fascinating tale, with three casts of characters. In descending order of size, they are the population at large, the legal profession and the Treasury.

It is vital first to understand that marriage is not on the way out. Alarmist headlines about rocketing numbers of single mothers, divorces, and children born out of wedlock - particularly to 1960s-generation iconoclasts - give a misleading impression.

Marriage remains the norm

Continued on Page 11

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## Arise the city-state

How to make voting worthwhile for the 'average' citizen

**B**etter voting! It makes no difference to the flavour of cheese. The power of individual varies according to the size of her or his bank balance. Putting an X on a ballot every five years is entertaining, but real choices are exercised at the point of purchase. Opinion polls are often wrong, cash never. Citizenship is yesterday's dream, tomorrow belongs to consumers. Politics ruled the 20th century. Business will reign in the 21st. These are assertions of the 1990s: in the present decade, they leave us puzzled. The answer cannot be the whole story. Surely democracy stands for something? Not in most places, politicians are held in low esteem, with journalists and politicians in the US conspire. Republicans seek to diminish the authority of the executive by diverting responsibilities and funding to the states. This is a first step, followed by campaigns to force state government to the minimum.

In Britain, Tony Blair remarked this week, the region in which politicians are held has never been lower, "except perhaps in the pre-reform Bill days of the early 19th century". The Labour leader set out his plans for change, prefacing his proposals with the words of his predecessor, the late John Smith. Mr Smith's ambition was to see "a fundamental shift in the balance of power between the citizen and the state", a move to a "citizen's democracy". Mr Blair's reforms, if implemented, would not meet that challenge.

Most of them are desirable, but the whole is less than the sum of the parts. Removing the voting powers of all hereditary peers except for a few who currently do an outstanding job must be right, but the ability of the by-appointment-only upper house to amend or postpone legislation would not be enhanced. The elected Commons would still dominate, a rubber-stamp for Mr Blair's administration.

Yes, the European Convention on Human Rights should be incorporated into British law. Appeals might then be easier, and perhaps cheaper, but no additional rights would have been protected. A freedom of information act is long overdue. Its value will be determined by the small print, when we get it. What Mr Blair terms the "removal of crude rate-capping limits", might enable local authorities to spend a little more, but it would not restore local autonomy to what it was before 17 years of Conservative emasculation nullified it.

The big one is supposed to be Scotland, but its proposed new parliament, better termed an assembly, would have less financial leeway than today's local authorities. Mr Blair, ever anxious not to frighten the horses, intimated that the existing Scottish office would merely be made accountable to Scottish voters. Admirable, but we should not be carried away. The new "parliament" sounds like a large regional authority to me.

**Blair, like Heselaine before him, floated the idea of elected mayors**

Assume all this comes to pass. We must be thankful for small mercies. Yet Britain would remain vulnerable to the whims of its cabinet, its elective dictatorship. The fact that it would be a Blair administration that pushed us around would make no difference to that.

Over the years, I have pursued this and similar arguments with some passion. But the world has moved on. Governments matter less than they did when parties argued about ideology, or how much they would spend if elected.

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PERSPECTIVES

The Nature of Things / Clive Cookson

Bodies from the shallow lagoon

Peat bogs can act as magical preserving agents for archaeological remains. In their acid oxygen-free conditions, perishable artefacts such as textiles - and human bodies - can survive virtually unaltered for thousands of years.

A solution may lie in a controversial new technique, derived from industrial chemistry, which has successfully conserved small artefacts in the US and Canada. Its biggest test is now beginning: the preservation of two shroud-wrapped bodies dug from Windover, one of a middle-aged woman and the other a young boy.

material, whether it comes from a bog or a desert tomb. Understandably, many conservators take a conservative view of new technologies - particularly those such as parylene that cause irreversible changes. They remember past disasters, such as chemical treatments for stone carvings which gave wonderful results at first but began crumbling after a few years.

Bruce Humphrey, the industrial chemist who has developed parylene's applications in conservation, says: "A lot of conservators are upset that we are going to do this with the Windover materials, but they offer no alternative."

coating electronic components to protect them against dirt and environmental hazards. The technology returned to British hands in 1983 when Cookson, the UK industrial materials group, bought Union Carbide's Specialty Coating Systems division. (I have a historical interest here: the Cookson Group is the old family firm, although Cooksons are no longer involved in the company.)



James Adovasio, left, and Bruce Humphrey with the body of a woman from the Windover Bog at Mercyhurst Archaeological Institute, Pennsylvania

undergo the parylene process. Parylene has not been used in Europe, apart from small-scale tests at the British Museum in the early 1980s. Sue Bradley, a BM conservator, says parylene gave good results - "and the samples are still in excellent condition, with no signs of yellowing". But it did not seem then to justify the additional costs and effort, com-

pared with less permanent conservation materials such as acrylic resins. A large-scale demonstration of parylene preservation at Windover should persuade conservators in the Old World to look more closely at this "molecular glue". It might be the only way of studying the fragile treasures dug from the peat bogs.

With inventor Brian Padgett's help, a company in north-west England has sold drilling rigs and coal-washing machinery to India. Padgett has found a career helping other technologists transfer industrial techniques among British companies and to Asia and Africa. He publishes a directory of the environmental abilities of companies in eastern England, and another seeking new outlets for the skills of people who worked on defence projects.

It was Padgett and colleagues at the former English Electric works at Bradford in South Yorkshire who designed a lightweight, variable drive which proved vital to the Harrier jumpet. Before that, he invented the spray-cooled alternator now used on aircraft. In 1985, while Padgett was running the Intermediate Technology Development Group's UK programme, he set up Technology Exchange Ltd which, with a staff of four, has exploited two simple ideas. One is that it is often better to license an invention widely rather than to sell it expensively to a single user. The second is that the best way to find licensees is to publish a catalogue.



Technology partnerships: Brian Padgett, centre, with his team, from left, Sheila Musson, David Lefever and Ian Mattinson

Dispatches Visit to an old boiler

Thomas, the plumber, never pauses for breath. The words come out like wind from a collapsing tyre. "Jeez Kieran and I thought we'd lost you for good that time, so I did, and there I was only the other day thinking your boiler needed a service, what with the dampness about and all and why wouldn't you come back and how do you find things, the country is in a terrible state..."

intruder with crucifix," was the message on one placard. "Yes, yes, there's all that," says Patrick, laying a piece of string, three drawing pins, a squashed Mars bar and no matches on the table. "But there is a lot more happening. It's as if the whole place is coming out from its shell. Taboos are being broken. The old myths are being shattered. We are not living in the past any more. Do you know that despite everything the Irish are the most optimistic people in Europe?"

Three and a half years away from Ireland in tropical parts. "Welcome to the wild, wonderful and warm west," said the new sign on the road from Dublin. The Irish have never been frightened of a drop of hyperbole. The car had just been blown across the Shannon. The wipers battled against the sleet. Crows wheeled and dived in the wind. No wonder the beating had given up the ghost. "Give me the hammer," said Thomas, with the air of a surgeon asking the nurse for the replacement heart.

There is a soft boom from the cow shed, which is home for the boiler. A noise like an alligator with indigestion runs round the pipes. Thomas says he thinks he has his eye on the problem but he would not be sure, what with the pump refusing to obey instructions and the system being none too sound.

Everything changes, everything is the same. The trees planted years ago have grown. Not up, but horizontally. The beech and birch, foreigners in these parts, are 12ft long but only a foot off the ground, victims of the Atlantic gales blowing in from Newfoundland. The fuchsias, as fecund as rabbits in the peaty soil, continue their march on the house. By spring they will have us surrounded.

Patrick shows the Irish are even showing signs of liking the English. "The west of Ireland is rotten with royalty. The other day I was in the town and who is there but Prince Edward. The other month Charles came to put his feet up for a few days. You want to be careful. Any day now you might have the Queen herself knocking at the door asking did you hear the numbers on the lottery?"

The exchange is limited by guarantee and is non-profitmaking. Turnover varies between £100,000 and £150,000 a year. Padgett says he and his colleague, David Lefever, work for about half the commercial salaries they could command. His satisfaction comes from testing the theory that Britain, if informative introductions are made, can establish fruitful partnerships in both richer and poorer countries. The Technology Exchange's database is on-line throughout Canada.

Patrick finds a match but remembers a cow he must go and look at. Thomas is triumphant at the door. "She's all fired up now but be sure to keep an ear out for any gurglings because you never know when a pipe will go and will be seeing you in the town later for a pint and then we can settle up and sort the problems of the world out at the same time, it is a terrible old business in Bosnia and whatever is going to happen in Russia? Things are in a pretty fix altogether."

Kieran Cooke

Minding Your Own Business

His trade is technology

Two simple ideas led to an exchange of invention and application. David Spark reports

launched what it calls technology targeting. It holds seminars to find what companies need or can offer, then it seeks to make connections. A move to South Bank Technopark after GLEB closed down proved costly, and Technology Exchange moved again to Silsoe, home of the Silsoe Research Institute. "Bedfordshire county council became our sponsors," says Padgett, "and supported our work under the EC Sprint Programme to help local firms find partners for their technology."

The DTI gave its goodwill but no money. "We were down to our last £50." However, printing bills did not arrive early, and the 10 catalogue editors said they would wait for their fees. Nine hundred catalogues were sold to firms in 51 countries, bringing about 3,000 introductions of which 500 led to negotiations. The Technology Exchange recouped some of its £40,000.

The Technology Exchange was invited to produce a catalogue for the first Techmart in China in 1991. The Chinese also translated the catalogue and printed 25,000 copies in Chinese. There have since been three Techmarts in India (plus another in February 1995), one in Zimbabwe, one in Zambia for farming and food processing and one in Vietnam. After India this year, it is Pakistan, Vietnam and back to Beijing.

For these events, Unid and national organisations put on international fairs while Padgett and his colleagues produce the catalogues of technology offers and requests. "We now link with over 4,000 sources of technology worldwide," he says.

Unid circulates the catalogues and pays the Technology Exchange a \$15,000 fee per Techmart. At first, companies bid for all manner of technologies, not realising they needed to prove they were competent to use them. Padgett also found it hard to persuade owners of technology to put offers in the catalogues, but he pointed out that he could provide them with the largest number of introductions they were likely to get.

Then Department of Trade and Industry officials asked him why support was being for the annual Barclays Techmarts. "We said there was no advance list of offers to attract the right firms." So the Technology Exchange staged a Technoshow at a Heathrow hotel. The idea was that it would sell in advance a catalogue of technology offers, and invite interested people to meet at the hotel.

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Exciting? Yes, I've read all about it, I say. There does not seem to be a town in the land where the clergy is not facing some sexual abuse charge or other. There is a hue and cry about crime, especially in country areas. Sephardic farmers living alone in isolated huts are being beaten up for the sake of a few quid. Drug-crazed vandals creating fear in many communities. "Man batters

Continued from Page 1

not the exception. More than half of the population over 16 is married. And far from marriage being shunned by the young, nearly two-thirds of men and three-quarters of women born in England in 1961 were married by the age of 30. Eighty per cent of children continue to be born to married couples.

What ever the explanation, the work of the divorce courts has expanded enormously. In the process, a profound change has swept the legal profession, and the Treasury has been left with an ever larger bill, particularly for the maintenance of one-parent families. Lord Mackay's bill was precipitated by these two pressures.

Children and money are now the main concern of the legal process. With good reason: nearly 80 per cent of divorcing couples have children under the age of 16, and the question of financial settlements has become increasingly fraught across the social classes since the launch of the Child Support Agency in 1993.

Stephen Cretney QC, of All Souls College, Oxford, says: "There has been a revolution - not least in the almost complete abandonment by lawyers of any notion that the decision whether a marriage is to be dissolved should be a judicial act." It is symbolised by subtle changes of language. Lawyers no longer talk about divorce law but "family law".

Confrontation has been almost entirely replaced by conciliation. The code of practice of the Solicitors' Family Law Association - which embraces most lawyers in the divorce field - enjoins members to "avoid heightening emotions" and to act throughout "with a view to proceeding by agreement".

Most continental European lovers learnt earlier than the English the advantages of later marriage, which is why the decline in marriage rates on the Continent has generally been less steep during the last decade. Even with the recent decline, the English are marrying at roughly the rate of the Italians and Spanish. It is not England's marriage rate, but its divorce rate which is stark. Equally striking is that the average duration of marriages ending in divorce (almost 10 years) and the age of divorce (37 for men and 35 for women on average) have remained roughly constant during the last decade, in spite of the increase in numbers.

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The quintessential statement of the revolution is the Law Commission's 1990 report on family law, which is both a key influence on the latest reform and a red rag to its opponents. The report claims that the divorce rate "does not, as is sometimes alleged, indicate a fundamental weakening of the fabric of society".

Still more provocative was the statement by Brenda Hoggett, one of the report's authors and a judge on the family division of the High Court - that "logically we have already reached a point at which...we should be considering whether the legal institution of marriage continues to serve any useful purpose".

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Why has divorce become so fashionable? Liberal clerics - particularly Anglicans - are widely blamed for encouraging "moral laxity". Some highlight broader social pressures. Others argue that the suppressed demand for divorce has always been great and is only now becoming apparent.

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كازمان الازهر



PERSPECTIVES

Lunch with the FT When Labour was cold on Europe

Nigel Spivey talks to Lord Annan about his experiences in the post-war period

I am not," confided Noel Annan, "a political animal. Sociable, yes. But not clubbable." Perhaps these things are relative...

get into it by accident. And I started at the cypher-cracking centre at Bletchley, which was a very odd place. More like a senior common room than an army outfit. Full of odd characters...



Lord Annan, one of Britain's leading academics, pleased to have dispensed the benefit of experience

Thomas Humphries

Britain squares up to the metric challenge

A quarter of a century has passed since the day on which, to a chorus of protests, Britain went decimal. At least, its currency did. On February 15 1971 the 20 shillings which made a pound lost their legal status...

The country has worked its way through rods, poles, perches, chains, furrows and furlongs. definition of an acre was said to be a furlong long (later called 22 yards) and 66 furrows of one foot width (later called a chain)...

invitation of the French to change to metric measures. The bill was lost by five votes. This would have saved us a lot of worry today. The first scientific measure of length in Britain was the yard, defined as the distance between two gold plugs on an iridium-platinum bar kept at 62°F and stored by the Board of Trade...

make products in imperial measures. A change to metric making metric widths requires huge capital investment. So, although a carpet manufacturer in feet may be ordered by the customer in feet, the shop must, by law, convert both measurements to metres before a transaction can be made...

Shirley Bond

Advertisement for Hungary with text: 'Open doors. Open hearts. Open minds. Hungary. Budapest. A city that's worth a thousand pictures.' Includes a photograph of a Budapest street scene and a stylized '96 HUNGARY!' logo.

FOOD AND DRINK

The European diet has been subject to considerable change in the past millennium. Possibly the most drastic alterations have been wrought by the discovery of America.

Eating Out / Giles MacDonogh
Echoes of Morocco's culinary past

If you wanted to find another survivor, you could try the petits pâtés de Pézenas. Or else, you could go to Morocco.

A tajine is a two-piece earthenware pot. The bottom half is a shallow bowl, the top a sort of funnel. In tajines meat (generally chicken or lamb, but camel is not unknown), is slowly cooked

A special dish is the tangia where lamb is marinated in a pot shaped like an amphora

presented with soft-boiled eggs, or lamb shoulder with slices of quince, or peas or green beans.

subject. The fly, he finally admitted, was something of a last resort used by wives trying to salvage a marriage which had floated on to the rocks.

I asked whether it was effective. Mohammed smiled and answered: if you added the fly to a dish of spaghetti and covered the pot, and returned to the stove a few minutes later, the pasta strands would all be standing up on end.

Cookery / Philippa Davenport

Puds to make a Briton proud

Jars of Radio Malt were kept in the pantry at my English boarding school, and underweight wannabe Twiggies and Kate Mosses were spooned a sticky mouthful after each meal in an attempt to lure them into prettier roundness.

this one offers, for the first time in several years, a heaven-sent opportunity to rediscover and enjoy an area of cookery at which Britain shines.



adults and children alike. To make a superior version, follow your usual recipe but replace one-third of the breadcrumbs with home-ground almonds, and increase the citrus element.

ROSCOMMON RHUBARB PIE Forced rhubarb is another seasonal treat. Schiaparelli pink, enticingly acid and deliciously tender, it is much more delicate tasting than its summer counterpart.

£19.99, 288 pages), food writer and cookery teacher Darina Allen was given a recipe for a fruit pie in which summer rhubarb was strewn with sugar, covered with a blanket of enriched bread dough and cooked in a bastable (traditional iron pot).

and tuck it in gently all round. Glaze with beaten egg and sprinkle with 1 teaspoon granulated sugar.

Land privatisation in Georgia is a boon for winegrowers but a bane for their wine. Georgian winegrowers, who gathered their best harvest in years last autumn, may at last be enjoying the fruits of economic reform.

Wine / Peter Graff
Future of grapes in Stalin's backyard

Georgians still drink wine in quantities that would raise eyebrows in Italy or France

The oldest evidence of wine-making on earth was discovered in Georgia - an ornamental relic made from a vine which grew thousands of years before the Bible was written.

France. The well-practised custom is to drain the glass with every toast.

year," said Givi Tvedorishvili, raising a glass of fizzy dark, home-made early red in his apartment in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi.



Horsepower economy: In Georgia average pay is £13 a month.

hot day in the middle of last year's harvest his factory stood idle for want of grapes.

a brand's quality. An American joint venture, Chalice Wines, now slaps its own label on standard Georgian varieties it produces at its own bottling plant in Kakheti.

Robert Parker London March 28th Lunch & Dinner Lectures

SPECIAL OFFER Lunch for £7.50 and Dinner for £10

BORDEAUX 1995 An Exciting Prospect

After an extensive land privatisation programme that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union, farmers were once again in business for themselves, and once again they faced good years and bad.

he admits. It also left the family free to take other work after the harvest.

Yet others are not convinced that the changes have been beneficial. One sceptic is Oleg Kikoshvili, head vintner at a winery that used to serve Gigauri's collective farm. On a

CLARETS AND VINTAGE PORTS WANTED, Seckford Wines WANTED

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: هكزان النحل

هبة امنه لاصط

HOW TO SPEND IT

How to gladden your loved one's heart on St Valentine's Day

Can the path of true love be materially affected? Lucia van der Post offers some suggestions

Some of us may wonder, in our world-weary way, whatever can be the point of a Valentine. After all, if you know the identity of the sender can the path of true love be materially affected by a naff little card?

And if you don't, after you have had the thrill of wondering who and what and why (could it be the spotty youth in

sales?), life proceeds unchanged.

I won't, for fear of seeming crass, dwell upon that other great illogicality - why spend all that money on somebody without being sure of being awarded the brownie points?

And as for those miles of column inches in some of our most serious-minded newspapers devoted to embarrassing messages from Smoochy-

Chops to Dinky-Boos, who, I wonder, can be so certain of finding a message that he/she can be bothered to wade through such guff. And it's all in such small print, too.

If all that seems too rational by half I have to admit one thing - I have never heard of a recipient of a Valentine token bestowing their fate.

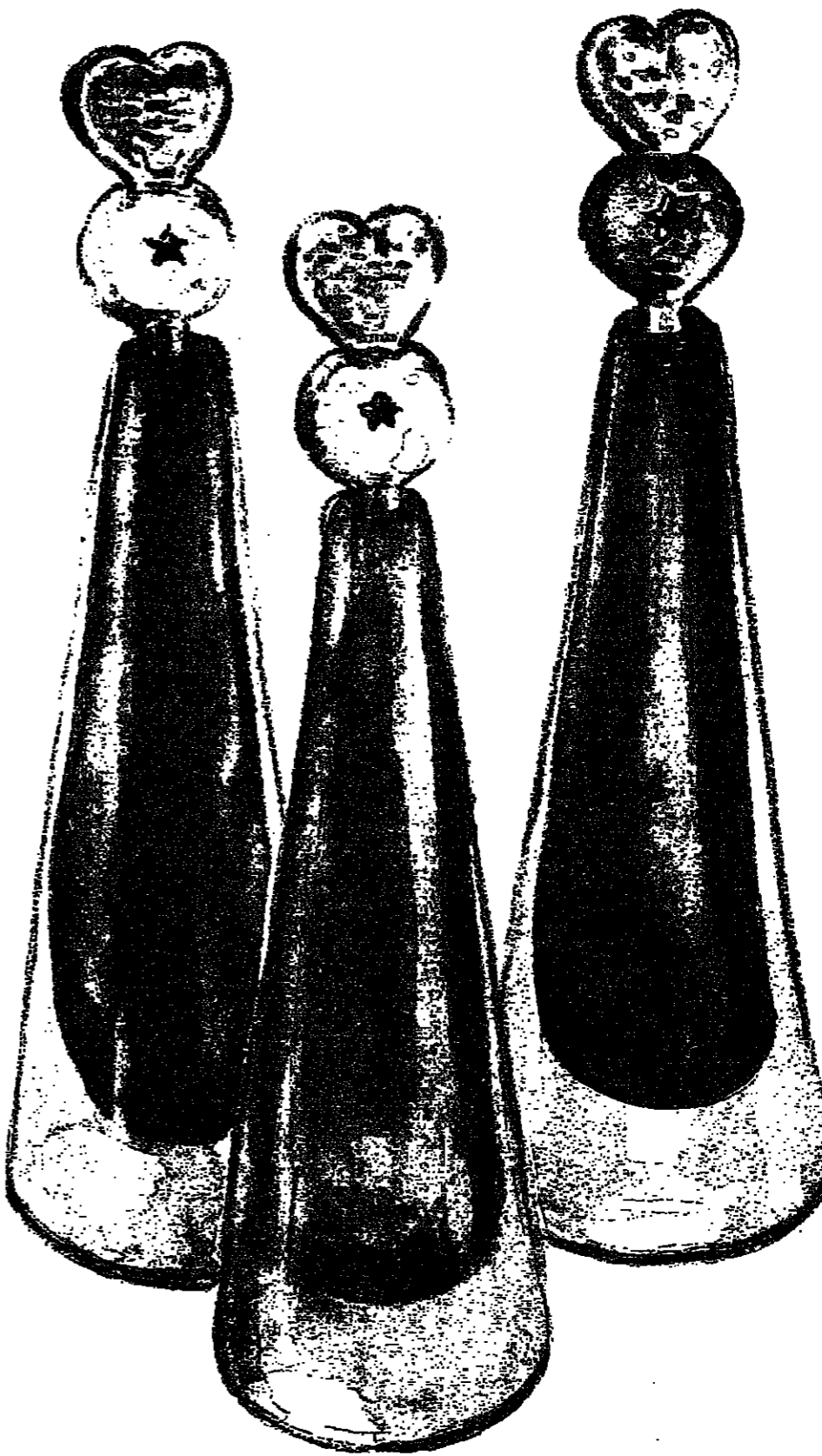
What is certain is that Valentine's Day has become a big

excuse for commercial endeavour: light-as-feather cakes, heart-shaped pizzas, bottles of booze, cards and other tokens are packaged entirely for "the day".

If you are of a more sentimental turn of mind and know somebody you would like to please, there are places where it is possible to find things of real quality and charm. Here are a few of them.

I am not usually enamoured of scent bottles - I am of the opinion that most scents come perfectly well packaged as it is. I can see no earthly reason to add to the expense by putting it into an altogether different bottle, however lovely. But these sand-blasted glass bottles, with their playful tops by Robert Crooks, are delightful objects in their own right - no need to decant anything into them, just display them. They cost £45 each and can be found in the British Crafts gallery in Liberty of Regent Street, London W1. Among other one-off examples of British Crafts, look out for Sarah Jane Brown's charming metal automata, for Mary Fellows' hand-painted ceramic clocks, mugs and cufflinks and for Ingrid Duffy's textile designs.

Drawings by Margie Keedy

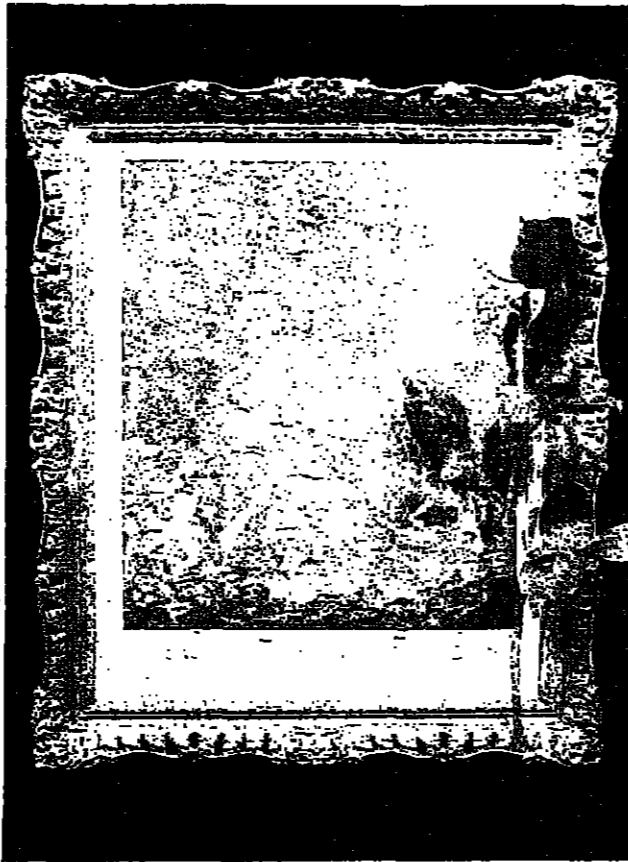


A lovely one-off present would be a romantic print appropriately framed. Bernard Shapero, of 80 Holland Park Avenue, London W11, still has a wide selection from his recent exhibition of romantic 18th century prints, starting at £500, framed. The frames are all by Bourlet of 32 Connaught Street, London W2 2AY, which specialises in making authentic-looking frames for museums and the best West End galleries. These are not proper antiques (though if you have time you can hunt the auction rooms for them) but new versions which are appropriately "antiqued". The print shown here is by Boucher and costs £600 framed. Frames of this sort of size and period would cost about £350 from Bourlet. However, should you choose this option you will not be the first - one customer who clearly believes in long-term planning has bought 20 assorted prints. They are all being framed - come the day there will be 20 happy people somewhere round the world.

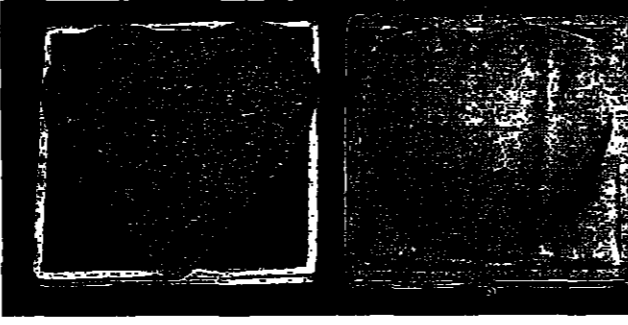


Gordon Westcott makes beautiful papier mâché bowls, plates and beakers. He started making them four years ago when he was made redundant and has gradually perfected his technique. He often layers the pink pages of the FT with white pages from other newspapers.

Shown here are two of his designs. Prices range from £10 to £15 for bowls, plates or beakers; he charges £1 for postage and packing. Write to Merryfield, 39 Exe Vale Road, Countess Wear, Exeter, Devon (Tel 01392-74590).



He decorates the plate with delicate cut-out motifs (a technique known as découpage) and the result is decorative bowls that are a delight. These are not bowls designed to withstand the rigours of the dishwasher; they should primarily be used for holding things such as nuts, biscuits or fruit and not subjected to the hurry-burry of daily usage.



Valentine's Day could be a good excuse to buy the beloved (male or female) a piece of jewellery. The Electrum Gallery, which has done a great deal of pioneering work for avant-garde jewellers, has a charming exhibition of heart-related pieces which it calls Straight from the Heart. Photographed here are three brooches by the American artist Pat Flynn - his work is

in silver and gold (though because the jewellery is not hallmarked it has to be described as white metal and yellow metal), steel and lead. Some are inset with diamonds and other stones. Prices range from £240 to £1,200 (plus VAT) for the one on the far left which is made from white metal studded with diamonds. Also available are some charming oxidised silver hearts, some

of which double as tiny boxes, inset with coloured stones by Catherine Currell. Prices from £50 to £210. Look out also for Gerda Flöckinger's earrings and, the least expensive piece on sale, Jivan's little tie-stud, featuring a silver heart with an arrow through it, for £45. The exhibition runs until February 14 at Electrum Gallery, 21 South Molton Street, London W1.

These rugs are made for walking on . . .

. . . But some could be cut up for cushions, says Lucia van der Post

The cleaner, simpler look gaining ground in interiors goes hand in hand with clean polished wood floors often softened by the judicious use of rugs. Those who prefer their rugs to come antique and valuable will know that not only are genuine examples harder to come by but that prices have risen greatly during the past few years.

However, if you are merely after decorative rugs, there is, happily, a great deal to choose from. Much effort has gone into persuading the carpet-weavers in the carpet-weaving countries to revert to their traditional practices, and to abandon harsh dyes and artificial fading.

Graham & Green at 4 Elgin Crescent, London W11 2JA, will shortly have a selling exhibition of some interesting Turkish rugs. Antonia Graham, who is the taste behind the shop and does much of the buying, has just returned from Turkey and a visit to Konya in western Anatolia with large numbers of gighms - these, for those who are unacquainted with the nuances of the rug world, are brocaded flatweaves as opposed to the tapestry-woven kelims. The floating weft which the brocaded flatweaves have gives the rugs an unusual texture which is both softer and more opulent than the stronger, more geometrical feel for which kelims are so renowned.

Graham says these gighms are "more faded Ottoman, softer, more sophisticated, more courtly". This is partly because the texture is softer - the gighms drape more easily - and partly because of the richness of the designs (the floating weft means that two designs can be used as a counterpoint to each other).

Those who want access to a larger selection of carpets, rugs and kelims, may like to know about Ian Walker's gallery in Odham, Hampshire. He, too, travels widely in the carpet-weaving countries and buys pieces that take his fancy.

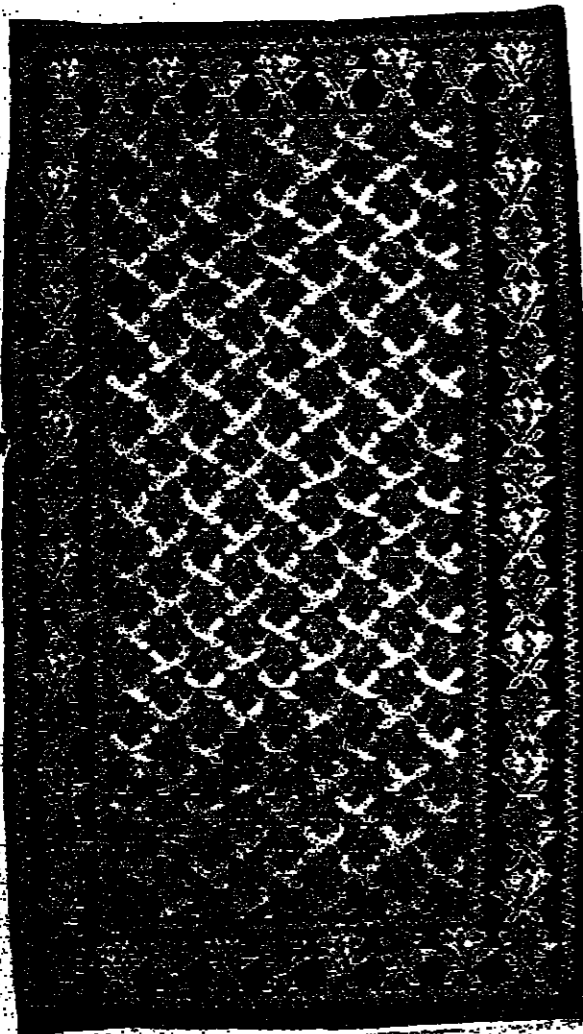
The result is that in his gallery you could find anything from an inexpensive small runner to a large and valuable carpet.

Almost everything he chooses is distinct in some way - either it comes from an interesting region, is a collector's piece, has a special colour combination or is just unduly decorative.

Besides selling the rugs on show in the gallery, Ian Walker will also search out special pieces (such as requests for a particular size or colour combination), give valuations and restore damaged pieces. The gallery is open Monday to Saturday from 9.30am to 5pm or by appointment at 78 High Street, Odham, Hampshire RG25 1LN (tel: 01256-703415).



Ottoman opulence from Graham & Green



Karabagh kelim about 8ft 6in by 5ft, £1,050, from the Odham Gallery

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TRAVEL

Galapagos Islands

Romance in isolation

The Galapagos, or Enchanted Islands, 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador in the Pacific, are no longer isolated. Twenty-five years ago, only a handful of enterprising tourists cruised around these islands, one of nature's wonders and a living laboratory of evolution.

Today, the pretty bay of Puerto Ayora is filled with cruise ships. More than 50,000 tourists now disembark every year at the military air field on the small, desolate island of Baltra.

This tourism boom has been a financial bonanza for the archipelago and Ecuador. For conservationists and scientists, it has become a source of growing concern despite strict controls on where they can go. But for all the problems development is bringing to the Galapagos, the islands made famous by Charles Darwin's voyage on the Beagle remain one of the most romantic and exciting cruising destinations.

That is, if you pick the right boat. The Beagle III, originally a research vessel built in England in 1969 for the Charles Darwin Research Station, was waiting for our small party in the cove just below Baltra airport. At the stern, a big bunch of green bananas was hanging. Under the wooden seats around the deck were avocados, melons, potatoes and carrots for the 10-day journey round the islands. Augusto and Georgina Cruz had already prepared lunch.

The couple brought the boat 12 years ago. Georgina, an upper class Englishwoman, met Augusto, a native Galapagan, when she visited the archipelago. She decided to stay and set up business. They make a good mix. Georgina bubbles with the enthusiasm of a hostess of a quintessentially English country house; the more taciturn Augusto knows the islands like the back of his hand and is happiest fishing, watching blue-footed boobies and sea lions, and playing cards with his crew late at night.

The biggest advantage of a small boat like the Beagle III, however, is that it sails in all those hidden places which the

bigger cruisers cannot reach. The archipelago consists of five bigger islands, 10 smaller ones and hundreds of islets and rocks spread over an area of 16,000 sq miles straddling the equator. It is a place of strange volcanic formations often covered in mist full of weird and wonderful beasts: giant tortoises, land and marine iguanas, red and blue-footed boobies, Frigate birds, albatrosses and flightless cormorants.

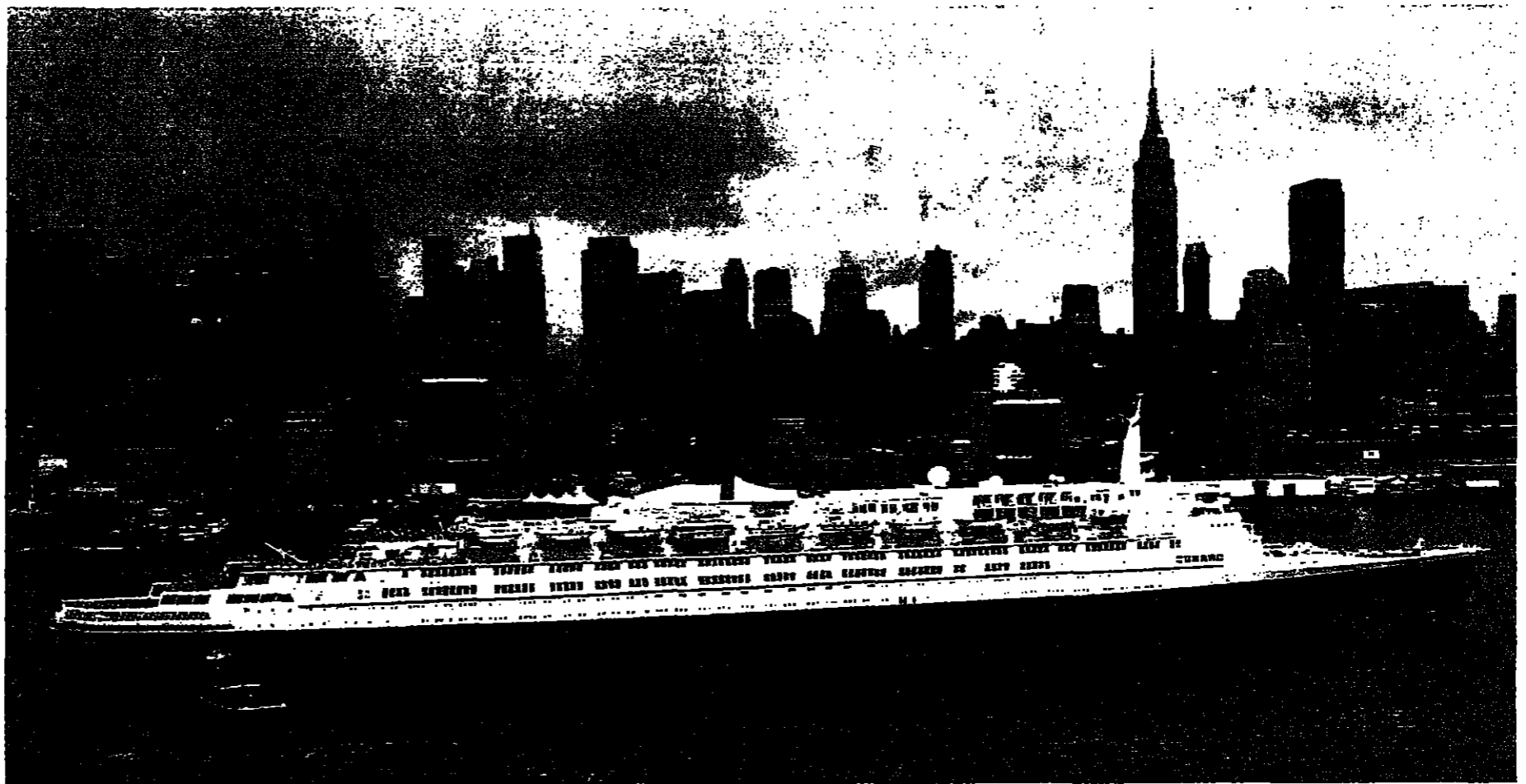
Rodrigo, our nature guide (environmental regulations require all cruise vessels in the Galapagos to have a guide on board), suddenly popped out of the water and pointed. "Hammerhead sharks," he said. We were snorkelling around Genovesa, a half-moon shaped island and one of the most distant in the archipelago. "Rodrigo added. I did not chance my luck and scrambled back on board.

The diving is probably the most spectacular feature of a trip to the Galapagos. Off Fernandina Island, I swam with playful sea lions spinning and diving around me. Later, in a cove surrounded by mangrove, giant turtles glided past in the underwater silence.

Augusto took me fishing one morning at Derek Cove. We anchored in the middle of a wide bay surrounded by the lunar landscape of the volcanoes of Isabella, the largest island. We just had to drop the fishing lines over the side to catch big groupers which the cook prepared for dinner that night.

On Isabella, Rodrigo took us up to the highlands and the Sierra Negra volcano. On the peak, the mist was tumbling over the crater, the second largest in the world, like a giant waterfall. There was only the sound of the wind and bees hovering in the brush. For a moment, I felt on top of a strange new world, completely isolated.

Crises on the Beagle III can be booked through Worldwide Journeys & Expeditions, 4 Conqueror Road, London W14 9EF. Tel: 0171-381 8638; fax: 0171-381 8636. Paul Betts



The QE2 against the New York skyline: 'you don't remain the oldest without being very good'

Ocean liner

Mixed fortunes of the QE2

No, no, insisted Peter Ward, the QE2, and Cunard for that matter, are not for sale. "I wouldn't have sold my home in Cheshire and moved my family to New York where Cunard's headquarters are now based to move back to England six months later," added the venerable but troubled shipping company's new chief executive.

We were having coffee in the Stafford Hotel in London's St James's, one of the hotel properties which Trafalgar House, Cunard's parent company, has just sold along with the Ritz and Dukes. Trafalgar House is now in the process of selling its Ideal Homes house-building subsidiary and there have been rumours about the possible disposal of Cunard.

At a time when the cruise busi-

ness is booming, Cunard lost £16.4m last year, and if exceptional charges are included the red ink swelled to £134.3m. Trafalgar House has not hidden its frustration. "Despite investing £200m in the fleet during the last two years, Cunard has underperformed its competitors, a severe disappointment when few in the industry have a brand name as strong," the company said in announcing the losses.

Ward, 49, who was appointed chief executive of Cunard last June, has taken over what is undoubtedly the toughest job in the cruise industry. He comes with no preconceived ideas and virtually no experience of cruising, but he knows all about turning around legendary names that have fallen on hard times.

Ward is a motor industry man who landed in the 1980s into the Rolls-Royce pool. The company was

suffering badly from old-style management and did not know what had happened when the recession hit. Ward rapidly rose from sales and marketing to managing director, and later chairman. He took the company apart in a pragmatic way and put it back on its feet. He left because he did not agree with the company's choice of German partner. He favoured Mercedes but the company opted for BMW.

He is now applying similar techniques at Cunard. "This is a very traditional business. We are a 150-year-old company. But you don't remain the oldest without being very good," he said. "In the past restructuring had been very slow and we have had to introduce new business processes." These included a better and more streamlined organisational structure, cost savings and stronger marketing.

The task has been all the more difficult because of the QE2's image problem after its ill-fated Christmas cruise in 1994 before a £30m refit was completed. Passengers experienced blocked lavatories, incomplete cabins and corridors blocked with construction equipment.

"Mistakes were made, we paid for them, and now we must get on with our lives," Ward said. "This business has very long lead times and it will take two to three years to revive Cunard." With the relaunch of transatlantic services - the QE2 will make 24 crossings this year - the flagship of the fleet is expected to return to profit. "Volumes are picking up and our latest Caribbean Christmas cruise was fully sold," he said.

Both the strength and weakness of the QE2 is that it is unique: it is not a cruiser but the last of the

great ocean-going liners. To adapt it more to the cruise market, all crossings have been themed around a subject or activity ranging from golf, to motoring and music.

Ward is also firmly committed to maintaining the QE2 and the other ships in his fleet at the luxury end of the cruise market. He believes the large amount of new tonnage coming on to the market will stimulate expansion in the luxury end "where we have 37 per cent of available bunkers".

Already one of Cunard's eight ships is experiencing the new boom. The Sagafjord will be taken out of regular service after September because it is not generating sufficient returns. The company is reviewing all options for the ship, including... possible sale.

Paul Betts

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BOOKS

**B**iography is a species of history, and history, in Cicero's definition, is "the witness of time, the life of memory, the mistress of life, and the messenger of antiquity." A biography of an historian, especially one who lived in epochal times and devoted himself to writing his history, is therefore doubly these things. Price Zimmerman gives us just such a biography, richly and elegantly portraying the life and work of the Italian historian Paolo Giovio (1486-1552), who wrote the controversially famous *Historiae of His Own Times* and brilliantly depicts many aspects of Renaissance life in his letters.

Giovio was a witness of the devastating wars that swept Italy at the end of the 15th and beginning of the 16th centuries, ending the Venice, Milan, Florence, Naples and the Papal States - in which the most exquisite flowerings of the Renaissance took place. His career as a churchman-courtier placed him in royal and papal circles, so he was able to make excellent use of his novel style of historical research, based on gathering eye-witness reports among everyone from kings to common soldiers.

For several centuries Giovio's *His-*

Eye-witness to history

A.C. Grayling on a quintessential Renaissance man

*stories were taken as standard, running through many editions and appearing in all the major European languages. But then the voices of his detractors began to drown those of his admirers. He was charged with distorting the facts in order to paint in a better light those who had patronised him. To charges of venality were added others of poor scholarship. Jean Bodin wrote that his eye-witness methods were less reliable than the archival methods of his famous contemporary Luigi Guicciardini. Not until Jacob Burckhardt made prime use of Giovio's work in his masterpiece, *The Civilization of The Renaissance*, robustly defending both the historian and his ideals - "his cult of fame and the individual, his classicism, his love of magnificent architecture, his connoisseurship of the arts, and his fascination with remote places and peoples" - did his reputation begin to revive. One of Zimmerman's chief objectives is to give a full defence of Giovio's merits. The tragic epoch to which Giovio*

stands witness, alongside his celebrated contemporaries Guicciardini and Niccolo Machiavelli, was the fall of the ripe fruit of Italy into foreign hands. In their plenitude and creative ecstasy the 15th-century Italian states quarrelled with one another, forming alliances and then reforming them to keep an uneasy

destabilisation of Italy had begun. Both France and Spain were hungrily watching Italy's turmoil. They had dynastic claims - princesses married to Italian ducal families generations before - and began to assert them now that Italy was internally distracted. Vital moments came when the Visconti invited Charles XII of France to help them regain Milan; when Savonarola led an uprising in Florence, driving out the Medici; and when Pope Alexander VI, through the generalship of his son Cesare Borgia, moved to expand the power of the Papal States.

**PAOLO GIOVIO**  
by C. Price Zimmerman  
*Princeton University Press £30, 391 pages*  
balance of power, beginning with a republican alliance between Florence and Venice against Naples and Milan. This arrangement seemed to deepen when Francesco Sforza overthrew the Visconti in Milan and immediately began border skirmishes with Venice. But Cosimo Medici in Florence grew anxious when he saw Venice's power in response, and promptly allied himself to the usurping Sforzas to maintain the balance. This drove the Serenissima into Naples' arms, and the

destabilisation of Italy had begun. Both France and Spain were hungrily watching Italy's turmoil. They had dynastic claims - princesses married to Italian ducal families generations before - and began to assert them now that Italy was internally distracted. Vital moments came when the Visconti invited Charles XII of France to help them regain Milan; when Savonarola led an uprising in Florence, driving out the Medici; and when Pope Alexander VI, through the generalship of his son Cesare Borgia, moved to expand the power of the Papal States.

Charles XII - once memorably described as a man "small in mind and body" - had grand ambitions: he dreamed of liberating Italy from the corrupt Papacy and launching another crusade to the Holy Land - and therefore crowned himself King of Jerusalem before leaving Paris. He needed no second invitation from the Visconti. The accumulating result of his invasion and Italy's internal decay was four long decades of strife, in the midst of which Rome was devastatingly sacked. The final gainers were the Spanish Habsburgs, into whose clutches the greater part of Italy fell. Italians had to wait for Mazzini, Garibaldi and the 19th century Risorgimento to regain independence.

Machiavelli observed Cesare Borgia at work in and around 1500, and wrote *The Prince*. Giovio witnessed the whole tumult of the wars from their beginning in 1494 until their effective end with the Treaty of Barcelona in 1559, and wrote their history. He quizzed kings, courtiers, cardinals, foot-soldiers, scholars, priests and anyone else he could put to the question, and wove his narrative from what they told him. In the midst of his own roller-coaster career as churchman and politician he wrote his many letters, engaged richly in the intellectual life of his times, and built at his home on Lake Como a famous portrait museum. Like other more familiar figures of his times, he was a quintessentially Renaissance man.

Zimmerman's account of Giovio is splendid. It applies profound scholarship in gracefully readable style to a man and a time of extraordinary interest, the combination making for an irresistible read.

Off-the-wall movie-maker

**H**ere is what overnight success feels like in Tinseltown: "Saturday June 20, 1992. It's my birthday! I'm 24-years-old. My wife and I had free tickets waiting for us at Universal Studios. It's weird, last year I had no money and couldn't buy a thing. Now I've finally got some money but now everything's free."

For the man who conquered Hollywood with a \$700,000 do-it-yourself feature film, triumph finally makes itself felt half way through his memoir. It is a short wait for the reader, who is unlikely ever to have read a more revealing, funny, captivating account of off-the-wall movie ambition leading to off-the-chart movie celebrity.

In 1988 Robert Rodriguez, a Texas university student, borrowed a 16-millimetre camera, bought a reel of film and some 250-watt lightbulbs and went to Mexico to make a Spanish-speaking western. No crew; no producer/writer/cameraman except himself; no paid cast, just friends and bystanders. And no ambitions for the finished film except to make a quick, minor killing in the Latin video market.

Less than a year later *El Mariachi*, after failing to secure even a bottom-of-the-barrel video deal, was being passed from studio to studio in Hollywood while moguls went berserk with competitive bids. A little after that, the film was released around the world by Columbia, winning prizes, cutting audiences and making its director whose first professional film *Desperado* opened in Britain this week.

There are two reels in Hollywood. One: it is impossible to make a feature film for \$7,000. "You mean \$700,000?" everyone asked Rodriguez. Two: you cannot break into big-time feature direction without climbing such approved career rungs as cameraman, screenwriter or assistant director, or without at least beginning as a film-school graduate or producer's nephew.

Rodriguez threw both rules into the bin. I first saw *El Mariachi* at the Berlin Film Festival, where disbelief among my Euro-colleagues was rife. Rodriguez had made a fast, funny, stylish pastiche Western, a sort of Sergio Leone "Lite". And he had made it like a home movie. After shooting the reels straight to video where he edited and sound-dubbed them; so he saved money by not making a film print at all. Hollywood did that for him later.

Written in diary form, *Rebel Without a Crew* is two human comedies in one. In the first 70

**REBEL WITHOUT A CREW**  
by Robert Rodriguez  
*Faber £11.99, 262 pages*

for his troubles in a young movie tyro, also stepping into the minefield of fame, called Quentin Tarantino.

Since the book is written in a style of sustained astonishment, even the passages with a satirical edge have a winning innocence. Disney's idea for remaking *El Mariachi* in English are especially crazed and cherishable. Could the hero be an electric guitar player in Texas? Could he end up on an Indian reservation being nursed back to health (*la Dances With Wolves*)? Could he have a wise old martial arts trainer (*la Karate Kid*)?

"I almost dove out the window," is Rodriguez' only comment. But when Hollywood is after you, there is no escape even in that. Another studio is probably under the window holding a blanket.

This is a priceless movie manual. It shows that, for all the wisdoms trotted out by career sages in the film business, nothing forms a filmmaker better than making a film on his own. For he is not really on his own at all. He is out there with friends, helpers, passers-by and his own supercharged optimism. After that, when the world storms his doorstep and cheques are waved to buy compromises, the studios lay siege to him with limos and lip service - that is when he is on his own.

**Nigel Andrews**

Freud meets Cosmopolitan

A hybrid genre of work has taken the place of the fortune-teller, writes Jackie Wullschlager

**O**nly the unhappy consult fortune-tellers - happy people, who want to hear "no change" do not need them. By the same token, the Mr Fixit genre of popular psychology capitalises on discontent: why buy a book called *Women Who Love Too Much*, for example, if your love is reciprocated? These books are the modern equivalents of the old crone at the village fair, and like her, they must become more sophisticated and inventive if they are to retain an audience. Thus a new hybrid has recently emerged: the self-help book dovetailed with serious psychoanalytical comment and data - a sort of mix of Freud and Cosmopolitan.

*Why Do Women Write More Letters Than They Post?* is published on St. Valentine's Day

and uses smart Lacanian theories about absence, presence and the mystification of language to console anyone whose mailbox Cupid forgets. Take Audrey Hepburn in *Love in the Afternoon*, say, or Kim Novak in *Vertigo* - both write, but do not send, love letters. Why? "Both women, aware that writing wasn't enough, put themselves in the place of the letters they did not send. Which raises the question, if not posting a letter can be a sign of love, is receiving one the sign that love is undone?"

Such questions, proposes psychoanalyst Darian Leader, go to the heart of sexual desire, which is never addressed to our flesh-and-blood companion but always to something beyond: women especially need an absent or fantasy-lover as much as a real one. The case-studies set out to prove this are eclectic, hilarious and, like much in psychoanalysis, seem at once breathtakingly obvious and ludicrously far-fetched.

There is the "morgue woman", whose lover disappeared for several days after each encounter, while she tele-

**WHY DO WOMEN WRITE MORE LETTERS THAN THEY POST?**  
by Darian Leader  
*Faber £9.99, 159 pages*

**IMAGINING CHARACTERS**  
by A.S. Byatt and Ignes Sodre  
*Chatto £16.99, 268 pages*

phoned all the local morgues to ask if a body had been found. There are the classics: "what happens when a man enters the parlour in a novel by Jane Austen?" The answer is a very simple one: he leaves". And why does model Claudia Schiffer fall in love with magician David Copperfield? for his ability to disappear, of course.

The charm of this essay is that like a 50-minute session on the couch, it meanders along, casting up here a perspective on that date that did not work out, there a line on why we liked a particular film. The frustration is that it never stops chasing its own tail. But, while most psychoanalytical texts are either dryly academic or banally populist, this one stands out in exploring new ways of relating myth, fantasy and reality, it follows in the genuine tradition of Freud.

"The poets and philosophers before me discovered the unconscious. What I discovered was the scientific method by which the unconscious can be studied", Freud wrote 100 a hundred years ago. *Imagining Characters*, in which novelist A.S. Byatt discusses well-known problem novels with psychologist Ignes Sodre, is a celebration of the relation between literature and psychoanalysis. It illuminates post-Freudian responses to pre-Freudian texts - did George Eliot mean us to ask if Dorothea and Casaubon in *Middlemarch* went to bed together? or what sex was like for Gwendolen and Grandcourt in *Daniel Deronda*? - and with examples demonstrates how much more powerful literary myth is than the disembodied anecdotes in Leader's book.

Analysts and novelists are both narrators of our inner lives; Byatt and Sodre scrutinise what books about the life of the mind love is "undone".

*Villette*, *Daniel Deronda*, tell us about our own fantasies. On Charlotte Bronte, for example "You can understand a lot about yourself by working out which fairytale you use to present your world to yourself in. *Villette* is a novel by someone who was terribly conscious of the temptation to escape into worlds of myth, or to invent places where desire could be satisfied, rather than living in reality". Charlotte Bronte famously wrote more letters than she posted; this book makes us look at our own desires from intriguing angles.



Epistolary questions go to the heart of sexual desire, argues psychoanalyst Darian Leader

Love in haste, repent at leisure

The prose may be cosy, but not the sentiments. Ann Geneva suggests a Valentine box of chocolates instead

**T**he notion of a book of English love stories may trigger thoughts of that old EEC nightmare scenario where the Italians are the police force, the English the chefs, and so forth. The editor's satiric preface does little to dispel this impression.

Deeming English love as different from other love as "the English weather from that of other countries", he states he has selected stories which "congregate on the uneasy fringe where the formulaic love story meets literature".

He then gets bogged down trying to sort various heroines into maidens, trill-ups, bitches, sluts, spiky lesbians or women of spirit - a curious exercise which he does not extend to categorising the heroes.

Fortunately, the stories

speak for themselves. They are mostly of the melancholy sort, their authors familiar but the pieces not over-antiquated, and the old-fashioned joined up writing gives immense pleasure: "Elizabeth Bowen's room with its possessions, its air of bravura and slyshod moodiness"; D.H. Lawrence's "three-pulse flash of the lighthouse below the cliffs"; or Hardy's "thatched brow and rotten as the gills of old mushrooms".

But if the prose is sometimes cosy, the sentiments rarely are. A high proportion concern the folly of sacrificing bachelorhood or maidenhead, and the repentance which surely follows either course.

In truth, a more accurate title might have been "The Oxford Book of Thwarted, Frustrated and Tragic Love". Mrs. Gaskell's dramatic *The*

*Heart of John Middleton* is one of the few which features an obsessive and irrational attachment.

Social pretensions and aspirations are generally pitfalls - as is their lack: in Thackeray's *Dennis Haggarty's Wife* the stalwart Dennis is blind to the unworthiness beneath his blind wife's social airs, until she and her "odious" mother turn him out of his house and take his money.

H.G. Wells's *Miss Winchelsea's Heart* also warns against social snobbery as Miss Winchelsea loses the love of her life by her genteel aversion to his surname of Snooks. In Somerset Maugham's *Episode*, a young woman defies her family's objections to her marrying a postman and ends up with her head in a gas oven.

Thackeray's daughter Anne

Ritchie provides a tale of unrequited love, devotion and male self-sacrifice. Thomas Hardy a poignant saga of a woman deceived twice - first by fate and then by a man. John Galsworthy's middle-aged landscape painter recalls his cynical coming of age as foil for a lady's duplicity; and in Arnold Bennett's *Clarebel* love has a narrow escape, but only as a result of a fortuitous misunderstanding.

In Virginia Woolf's *The Legacy* an MP husband discovers he has been an MCP, and that his wife had taken a

lover and committed suicide only after reading her posthumous diaries. D.H. Lawrence's *Sanson and Delilah* depicts a violent reconciliation after a husband's 16-year absence in the new world. Elizabeth Bowen's *A Love Story* shows a tangle of lovers, each dissatisfied for a different reason.

In Graham Greene's *The Blue Film*, an undesired wife in search of erotic stimulus finds herself viewing her husband's performance in a pornographic film 25 years previously. Sylvia Plath's *Stone Boy with Dolphin* gives as graphic and mesmerising a description of jealously and date rape as anyone is ever likely to want to read; while Paul Theroux's true love sends him a bill for a 2 per cent commission for finding him the flat he thought they would live

happily ever after.

Perhaps tellingly, the two stories stuck on at the end about modern gay love by Sara Maitland and Adam Mars-Jones seem the sole representatives in this collection of warm-hearted devotion.

The publisher's blurb, confessing the book is published for Valentine's Day, promises "these stories bring a delightful perspective to the mysteries of the English in love".

Mysterious indeed. On the evidence of this book, opting for a box of chocolates this St. Valentine's Day might prove prudent. The editor's preface cites the Beatles to the effect that all you need is love, but another song may be more appropriate to this our collection where English love turns out after all to be just another four-letter word.

**THE OXFORD BOOK OF ENGLISH LOVE STORIES**  
edited by John Sutherland  
*Oxford £17.99, 452 pages*

Sex, royalty and extortion

**E**mile Zola's attack on the French military over the wrongful incarceration of Alfred Dreyfus must stand as one of the bravest and most passionate examples of campaigning journalism. The article, in which successive paragraphs began with the phrase "J'accuse", earned its author a year-long jail sentence, which he evaded by fleeing to Britain.

It finds a place in *The Book of Modern Scandal*, placed alongside tawdry revelations of bitter and avaricious lovers and transcripts of private telephone conversations recorded by eavesdroppers.

Scandal has few boundaries in many directions. However, though many of the articles and original texts concern aspects of the public interest, prurient interests win out.

The earliest texts set the tone with the key ingredients that tabloid newspaper editors still drool over: royalty and sex. Queen Caroline, George IV's wife, did not indulge in the current royal practice of admitting her liaisons to the world at large, but testimony from the faculty prosecution of her for adultery sheds a vivid light on the subterfuge needed for such assignments.

The memoirs of Harriette Wilson, whose revelations in the 1820s kicked off with the words, "I shall not say why and how I became, at the age of 15, the Mistress of the Earl of Craven", and whose response of "publish and be damned" from the Duke of Wellington, set an unbeatable standard in kiss-and-tell.

There is even a 19th-century case of outing, albeit heterosexual, with Victoria Clafin Woodhull, a radical who advocated free love, defending her exposé of the Reverend Henry Beecher for adultery. "I am prone to denounce him as a

poitroon, a coward and a sneak; not, as I tell you for anything he has done but for failing to stand shoulder to shoulder with me and others who are endeavouring to hasten a social regeneration in which he believes."

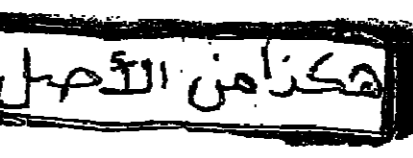
There are fewer accounts of scandal in public life, though the early ones are riveting. The appeal of extracts such as that from John "War's" "Unreformed Abuses in Church and State" in 1849, which detailed profligacy and abuse of funds by certain ambassadors, lies as much in the quality of writing as the content.

**THE BOOK OF MODERN SCANDAL**  
edited by Bruce Palling  
*Weyland & Nicholson £20, 448 pages*

Will Irwin's account of the interwar rowdy scene at the First World War in 1909, where corrupt Chicago politicians raised their funds, is perhaps the best of all: "As she stands on the table with outstretched arms, shouting loud obscenities to the crowd which collects to watch her, she bears a fearful resemblance to one of those huries of the French Revolution. Before her box lies a little flashily dressed man, dead drunk, grovelling in the less of the floor."

Few of the more recent articles are as absorbing. Familiarity of content is just one problem. Palling draws heavily on newspaper journalism and although original investigation, verbatim testimony and good obituaries are remarkably good, news stories pegged on unfolding events in long running sagas add little to the facts. This may not matter much to most readers of this book, who, one suspects, will be after racy stuff.

**David Nissan**



BOOKS

# Momma's boy to hairy barbarian

Jay McInerney reads Beat writer Kerouac's early letters before 'On the Road' shot him to fame

Scott Fitzgerald once remarked that there could never be a true biography of a novelist, because if he is any good he is far too many people. Certainly this seems to have been true of Fitzgerald, who, after more than a dozen biographies, remains elusive. His observation comes to mind when reading Jack Kerouac's letters, which by turns reveal a tough guy and a momma's boy; a socialist and a right-wing republican, a craven hero-worshipper and aaving egomaniac.

Fortunately, this volume, which carries us from 1940 to 1956, reflects the youthful ascendancy of the novelist, showing more of the idealist than of the reactionary, more of the hitch-hiking James Dean prototype than the drunken couch potato. Like the first volume of Peter Guranick's biography of Elvis, which ends with the beginning of Elvis's military stint - this collection hap-

pily shows us the rebel in his youth, before the jowls and the splenetic moralising and the Nixonian politics set in. In fact, the trajectory of Kerouac's life is remarkably similar to that of that other rebellious momma's boy.

It was not until 1957, with the publication of *On the Road*, that Kerouac became famous as the man who named the Beat generation and wrote one of its two seminal documents. And so these letters show him inventing himself, full of youthful bravado and morbidity. ("Until I find a way to unleash the inner life in an art method, nothing about me will be clear.") His voice is all over the map, and custom-tailored to his correspondents. He is stern and curmudgeonly with the younger Ginsberg; puppyish and worshipful of Neal Cassidy; Buddhist with Gary Snyder. He is in awe of Burroughs. But to his mother he is always the devoted son.

Born into a French Canadian family in Lowell, Massachusetts, Kerouac moved to New York to attend Columbia University. Eventually his mother followed him, setting up house in Brooklyn. Through Columbia, Kerouac got to know Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs and the others who would come to be known as the Beats. When he was not banging out, doing Benzadrine, listening to jazz, and arguing about

secularism (and a great deal of Thomas Wolfe). On the other hand, as he got older he came to enjoy and cultivate the notion of himself as the hairy barbarian of New World literature, as a natural man of letters who was throwing off the dead hand of culture.

Preparing for his first cross-country trip to visit Neal Cassidy in Denver, he says in a 1947 letter: "I have begun a huge study of the face of America itself, acquiring maps of every state in the USA and before long not a river or mountain peak of boy or town or city will escape my attention... My subject as a writer is America, and, simply, I must know everything about it."

**SELECTED LETTERS OF JACK KEROUAC**  
edited by Ann Charters  
Viking £25, 624 pages

idiot savant of legend. The early letters to his friends in the "Promethean Society" of Lowell, Massachusetts are bursting with giddy references and quotations from the French Symbolists, the English Romantics and the American tran-

and created in him the prototypical Beat generation hero. But their visits and trips were long in the planning, and often abbreviated or aborted or disappointing in fact. Kerouac was more of an artist than he was the outlaw of Beat legend, and was probably happier in front of his typewriter in his mother's house than he was riding the rails. He put a great deal of himself into his correspondence, and hardcore Beat fans will presumably be grateful for the current volume. The footnotes from editor Ann Charters, author of the standard Kerouac biography, are useful, but non-believers and general readers lacking context might do better with Steven Watson's recent *The Birth of the Beat Generation* (Pantheon).

## Crime and punishment in the balance

A breakdown of the criminal justice system may be the symptom of wider social issues, argues Michael McConville

David Rose is a worried man. For him, English criminal justice is in a crisis without precedent. The system often fails to identify offenders and, when suspects are apprehended, it has a propensity to confuse factually guilty criminals with the falsely accused. As public faith in the system is eroded, there is a drift towards an atavistic form of justice in which the dominant motive is revenge. The "logical conclusion" of this development is a deeply divided society with guns and fortifications, in which notions of "One Nation" are replaced by state and freelance vigilante violence.

This apocalyptic nightmare is evidently not shared by the main protagonists in the law and order debate. Those on the Right, who will not accept their part in creating a dysfunctional world, deny the role of deprivation, unemployment and deepening inequality in contributing to crime, and seek solace in renewed calls for vindictiveness. Those on the Left, who cannot confront the importance of individual moral choice, refuse to accept the adverse social effects of weakening family structures and reverse all their principles when discussing race and crime. Small large claims require careful and rigorous demonstration. If only half of them were true, the reader would need a measured guide to a public discourse which, as Rose himself acknowledges, has become ever more shrill, with its participants mired in cliché, ignorance and anachronism. Unfortunately, David Rose does little to substantiate his overblown claims.

police in the old regime (prior to legislative reforms in the mid 1980s) were quite prepared to "fit up" suspects through false confessions and institutionalised malpractice, as senior officers now concede. This regime, he claims, lies defeated, the evidence for which, we are brazenly told, is supplied by the very same officers who admit to fabricating evidence and lying on oath to courts.

Still, asks Rose, might this have been the only way to get the job done and, even so, get it right? We must confront this awkward question because, according to Rose, convictions have fallen as crime has risen, especially in serious cases. The evidence for this is unconvincing. On Rose's own analysis, the baseline comparison is drawn from the age of corruption when convictions could be inflated by perjured police testimony and by persuading defendants to clear police books by accepting responsibility for untold numbers of unsolved offences.

to call their own witnesses; each side should have the right to attack its own witnesses; phone-tap evidence should be routinely admitted; police interviews of witnesses and suspects should be filmed; and jury service should be made compulsory. Just as the Titanic is about to hit the iceberg, David Rose contends himself with re-arranging the deck chairs.

But what of his big idea? This turns out to be a reformed prosecution service. Local prosecutors would have the power to supervise, modify and stop police inquiries and would be able to meet victims, witnesses and suspects. The results of this change would be that fewer innocent people would go to prison, prosecution cases would not break down at the door of the court, public confidence and trust in prosecution evidence would be restored, and the acquittal of "really guilty criminals" would cease to be a common event. It is not explained how these results would come about; they would follow from this new relationship of co-operation and trust between prosecutors and police.



Tapaba Indian children, whose families are campaigning for land rights in the Brazilian state of Ceará, photographed by José Albano; from "Novas Travessias: Contemporary Brazilian Photography" by Maria Lutz Melo Carvalho (Verso £19.95, 191 pages), which reflects the rich eclecticism of the country's culture

**IN THE NAME OF THE LAW**  
by David Rose  
Jonathan Cape £17.99, 336 pages

## Fiction

# Symbolic voyages of discovery

For some reason the list of Graham Swift's earlier books at the beginning of *Last Orders* does not mention *Waterland* - the evocation of the East Anglian fens which was his most successful, perhaps his best, novel. This new novel takes similar possession of Swift's own home territory of working-class South London. Its technical brilliance is such that I began by feeling that it would be more appreciated in the variety creative-writing faculties (of which Swift is a prominent product) than in the bookshops of middle-England; on a second reading, I was entirely won over and, indeed, impressed and moved.

The ashes of Jack Dods, a reluctant miser-butchery, are taken from Bermondsey to be scattered in the sea at Margate. He is accompanied by his adopted son Vince, and by three of his old-fashioned friends: Ray "Lucky" Johnson, a clerk and a betting man, who is the principal narrator; Lemmy, who has a fruit-and-veg stall and once tried to be a boxer; and Vic, the undertaker. The widow, Amy, who for 50 years has been preoccupied with her men-

**LAST ORDERS**  
by Graham Swift  
Picador £15.99, 295 pages

ally-defective daughter, prefers not to attend. They drive down the A2 on a Chancery route from New Cross, with occasional digressions to a pub, to Chatham, to Canterbury Cathedral. They talk; they remember; they all have their role in the narrative. We slowly discover the various dramas of their ordinary lives - Swift reveals the detail reluctantly, with great control and skill.

**IMAGININGS OF SAND**  
by André Brink  
Secker & Warburg £15.95, 354 pages

don't help you much, having been at the battle of El Alamein... This is a marvellously expert book. André Brink, after a dozen much-lauded and heavy-handed novels of life in apartheid South Africa and in its earlier generations, sets his new book *Imagings of the Sand* in the violent and dangerous week of the April 1994 elections which brought majority rule. Kristien Müller, a thirty-something South African woman, self-exiled in Britain for 11 years, is summoned home

quired dash of fashionable magic realism. "These, explains the author/narrator, are 'the fantasies of a frontier world, all larger than life, the exaggerations of a mind on the threshold of death, or a vision of some deeper darker truth...'. You have been warned. Kristien nurses her grandmother and revisits her childhood; she comes to terms with her sister, who is married to a stereotypical racist; she discovers that she and the maid are literally of the same family; she suffers (for the living and the dead, for the mess we have made of this land...") etc.

It is, of course, symbolic - indeed, the tale is laden with the symbolism of the move from the old to the new South Africa. Kristien, the exile-returned, nurses a dying Afrikaner matriarch on the first floor and a wounded Black man in the basement. The sister has inherited the rage of the women of this family and of the Afrikaner tribe, and the result is bloodbath. "Write a new chapter, yes," urges the ANC friend - "Close the old books, no. We can't imagine the future by pretending to forget the past..."

## Strident voices, dispossessed lives

The stranger and more clamorous the voice, it seems, the bigger the publisher's advance. James Hawes is the latest in a line of striking new voices, whose strident first novel has sold instant movie-rights and translation rights in ten countries.

The story of *White Merc With Fins* is subservient to style and is enacted until the last 50 pages. This is "the plan", in which a handful of social misfits representing five nations take a private bank. But it is Hawes' voice that makes most impact as he details every sub-

culture that London can throw up. He gives expression - anarchic, jacked-up, growing stuff - to the dispossessed, "people so lost they will do anything to join a tribe". Dogs, porn, the IRA are thematically linked on the grounds that "crime is all political".

Hawes is preoccupied with the state of the nation from the underside. The narrator is a 28-year-old with no job prospects, no name, a graduate who lives in a shed backing onto his sister's west London house. He has ditched his lower-middle-class background in order to chase a piece of real wealth which allows entry into "middle-class heaven". But with no job prospects, he devises an ingenious plan to steal it. "This is the only chance we get, there are no pockets in shrouds."

Wonderful though his voice is, it begins to bore after 100 pages as Hawes repeats his jokey graphics and digressive gimmicks. There are many tributaries in this novel, but little sight of a substantial river. As his friend and ally, Dai, warns on hearing of the

**WHITE MERC WITH FINNS**  
by James Hawes  
Cape £12.99, 281 pages

**NATHAN'S RUN**  
by John Gilstrap  
Little, Brown £12.99, 303 pages

of 13-year-old Nathan Bailey, on the run from a detention centre after killing his supervisor. Gilstrap's omniscient narrative covers all bases - Nathan, hiding in vacated houses; the investigating officers closing in; a criminal gang with its own motives for finding Nathan; radio-talk host "the Bitch" who keeps an on-line conversation going with the runaway; and numerous minor characters who disap-

pear after a page, which would not be so noticeable if it were not for the attention that was drawn to various extraneous facts of their lives. The nationwide manhunt follows a formulaic pattern which affords few surprises, and is executed with a lumbering prose style. But the problem is that Gilstrap gives too much information too early on why Nathan killed his supervisor. Thus, instead of implicating the reader in a moral counterpoint, he does the thinking for us.

**Russell Celyn Jones**

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ARTS

Great artists are often a puzzle, and Cézanne is as difficult as any. This exhibition at the Tate Gallery, the first comprehensive study of him since 1936, shows him warts and all, with his awkwardnesses and failures clearly exposed beside his triumphs.

Autres temps, autres murs: the retrospective, which has transferred to London from Paris, offers a different disposition of more or less the same body of work and suggests new connections to be made, new thoughts about the artist and his work to ponder.

It is not a question of which city has offered the better show, for there are pros and cons on either side. I liked the teasing together of groups of work at Paris rather than the more metronomic regularity of the hang at the Tate. On the other hand, the Tate has made so much more of the drawings, which at the Grand Palais were rather lost. There the large galleries offered a more general impression. Here the Tate's more flexible spaces allow more particular a narrative, room by room, chapter by chapter.

With Cézanne, it is the difficulty of his work that is itself the point - the difficulty faced, worked through and finally transcended. More than anyone, he points the moral, for his was no God-given facility but a greatness reached for and finally achieved by force of will and unremitting application.

This moral quality of his was recognised by his peers even as he struggled as a young man. By the end of his life he was the central figure, the pivot on which all modernism turned. Indeed the show at Paris was glossed in just those terms, and quite right too, for without him there might well have been no modern painting at all. In the 1890s, immature as he was, we see him standing with Courbet, Manet and Delacroix and looking back with them to the great humanist tradition of figurative painting. For a while in the 70s we find him beside his Impressionist contemporaries, Sisley, Monet and Pissarro, painting along the valley of the Oise north of Paris.

But even then, in such works as "The House of the Hanged Man", we find him already moving beyond the immediacy of the visual moment into a more closely ordered world of space and form and structure.

Back in his native Provence from the later 1870s, we find a heightened palette and an ever sharper definition. And so, in his old age, we see him and here of Picasso and Matisse, godfather to cubism and constructivism and on to minimalism. "One does not take the



A difficult painter: 'Apples and Oranges', 1893, by Cézanne. His greatness was achieved through force of will and unremitting application

Godfather to modernism

William Packer reviews the magnificent Cézanne retrospective at the Tate Gallery

place of what is past", he said: "one only adds another link to the chain."

All this is made as clear in London as in Paris, but while there the emphasis was perhaps more art-historical, in London we get rather more from the work of that personal struggle. "I work obstinately, I glimpse the Promised Land... I've made some progress. Why so late and so painfully?" The bonus is that we get more, too, of the final transcendent triumph, in the late still lifes, and in the final shimmering paintings and water-colours of the Mont Saint Victoire, far away across the valley.

The works he made from the imagination, rather than before his subject, remain a problem, most especially the bathers that obsessed him for most of his last 30 years. The figures are unresolvable and physically improbable. His early life drawings bespeak an academic competence, the early still lifes a hint even at precocious brilliance, close to Manet; yet there beside them are the desperate essays in romantic and symbolic narrative that at best are pathetic, at worst, rather worse. Yet even then, with the model before him, as for the early, proto-Expressionist "Negro

Scipion", the result is impressive. The later portraits, studied and tranquil, are marvellous, those of his wife best of all.

Au fond, it is as the painter of space, and of objects related within that space that he is greatest of all. No painting is finished. All is enquiry, all open, speculative, at once tentative and decisive. "I become more lucid in front of nature, but the realisation of my sensations is always painful. I cannot attain the intensity which unfolds to my senses... I proceed very slowly, the nature that presents itself to me

(being) very complex; and there is always progress to be made."

His wife's dress as she sits to him in her yellow chair, is here a solid and modelled passage of paint, here a drawn line, a mark, a dot, here a loose transparent brushing-in, a surface as open as that of his forest stretching away to Mont Saint Victoire. Apples sit on a cloth that falls over the table's edge, a rug beyond. Here are the rocks, the trees, the bridge across the water, and always that continuing, returning enquiry. And why should such things be so moving, and Cézanne so

important to us? It can only be for the affirmation he makes of the importance of art to the human spirit, in fixing upon the experience of the moment, and above all of the enduring validity of painting itself, as a vehicle for its expression. In these days, when painting from the visible world is so lightly written off as irrelevant, it is an affirmation of the profoundest importance.

Cézanne: the Tate Gallery, Millbank SW1, until April 23, then on to Philadelphia; sponsored in London by Ernst & Young.

Today's repeat of Episode 5 of *Murder One* contains a prime example of one of Steve Bochco's great strengths. As a sub-plot he sets up a case which seems, after you have heard the prosecution details, to be absolutely watertight. "Right", you think, "even your whizzkid defence lawyer will never get the little schmuck out of that; let's see you write your way out of this one." And of course he does. Even though the defendant admits to shouting anti-semitic insults at his victim and was seen attacking him in the street, the defence counsel here manages to produce evidence which enables the defendant to walk free. It is a knack that we have seen Bochco develop in previous series such as *Hill Street Blues*, *Cop Rock* and, above all, *LA Law*.

The first showing of Episode 6 tomorrow brings out other ingredients in his formula. Call it didacticism, call it pragmatic willingness to exploit whatever he sees in the way of social change going on, but Bochco is always keen to reflect the current craze or the latest innovation. At the centre of *Murder One*, as the title indi-

cates, is a murder case. In the build up to the trial he shows us lawyers employing empanelment experts: people who make their living by helping lawyers to choose juries, presumably by use of the challenge system. Up to the end of Episode 9, the trial has actually started, so we have seen no challenge. But we have learned that these experts go out into America's malls and plazas and find out what the public thinks of the defendant, not only to produce profiles of ideal jurors, but so that the lawyers can most effectively manipulate the media. It is enough to make British eyes boggle.

And yet, like many who have made films about the American legal system, Bochco appears to have a pretty solid belief in its underlying strength. At the end of tomorrow's programme Ted Hoffman, chief defence lawyer in

the trial of the young film-star Neil Avedon, is asked by his wife "How will you be able to look your own daughter in the eye if Avedon killed a 15-year-old girl and you get him off?" To which Hoffman replies: "That's the wrong question. The right question is how can I look her in the eye if I don't give Neil the same presumption of innocence that the Constitution does?" The equivalent sentiments written into a British legal series would either seem so pompous as to produce a laugh, or would highlight the lawyer's hypocrisy. Yet presumably, in the American tradition of courtroom drama, Bochco really means it.

This is not entirely certain, given that one of the starting points for *Murder One* was the O.J. Simpson trial. Since the televising of that real event captured the imagination of

millions and dominated the ratings, it may well be that the 23-part fiction *Murder One*, built around a single trial, will also succeed with the viewers. What is not clear - up to Part 3, anyway - is whether Bochco has any strong feelings about the conduct of the Simpson trial, the light it threw on the American legal system and revelations concerning fees to witnesses for books, to lawyers for television appearances, and so on. It is not hard to imagine a British series taking a very outspoken line on such matters. Bochco, for all his astuteness about the current scene, provides little indication of his feelings. Perhaps he believes with Sam Goldwyn that messages are for Western Union.

What is present in large measure is sheer entertainment. It is a bit misleading to say that this series is concerned with just one murder case:

every episode contains at least one other complete story, which often occupies more time than the murder. All that Bochco has really done is to change the emphasis. *Hill Street Blues*, *NYPD Blue* and *LA Law* all used a permanent group of characters whose domestic circumstances and office affairs we followed from week to week, even though each week brought a new story. He has done the same with *Murder One* but added another dimension in the form of a single background plot. Like so much American television drama this dachas along, driven by constant high octane injections of pure narrative. Moreover, in Daniel Benzali, who plays Ted Hoffman - portly, bald, incisive, witty, dominant, and armoured with integrity - we surely have a major new television performer. He has been seen in *LA Law* and *The X Files*, but *Murder One* is going to make him a star.

There is one snag. *Murder One* is being shown on Sky Movies, so you need access to satellite or cable, although like *The X Files*, it may be shown later by terrestrial television. It certainly should be.

Television/Christopher Dunkley

In defence of murder

Radio/Martin Hoyle

Serious gossip about history

not been Queen Victoria. Did the fact that as a woman she was not allowed to accede to the family domains of Hanover actually facilitate Bismarck, the first world war and the Russian Revolution? Did her haemophilic children sig-

nify that she "slept with the milkman", as one enthusiastic populariser of Clio, muse of history, phrase it? Certain rumors were given the stamp of academic approval. The near certainty that Prince Albert was the son of a cultivated Jewish musician with whom the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha lived for three years makes the present royals look much more interesting. John Brown's bed, in a room next to the widowed queen's, was never slept in, according to the maids; and Bertie smashed every bust he could of the dour Highlander when he came to the throne as Edward VII.

Victoria emerges as quite a goer and irritatingly human. Her famous denial of amusement was prompted by an improper story from "an old queen" referring strangely not to a fellow-monarch but a jolly courtier of whom Victoria was fond. As she dabbed her face with a napkin while she said it, one likes to hope it was one of her few lies.

The limitations of the tabloid treatment will be illustrated next Monday when the programme deals with Henry VIII. A political figure, he never slept in, according to the maids; and Bertie smashed every bust he could of the dour Highlander when he came to the throne as Edward VII.

Victoria emerges as quite a goer and irritatingly human. Her famous denial of amusement was prompted by an improper story from "an old queen" referring strangely not to a fellow-monarch but a jolly courtier of whom Victoria was fond. As she dabbed her face with a napkin while she said it, one likes to hope it was one of her few lies.

More living history, and more presenter trouble, in *Gardening in the Raj* last Friday. The gratingly facetious Sue Phillips stuck in the oar of comment when none was needed, complete with heavy-handed jokes about "naive girls"; and the producer

abetted her by having excerpts from a gardening manual's book read by a languidly affected and slightly glib voice rather than the briskly crusading cheerfulness I remember from my parents' circle in the country of my birth - or indeed the first-hand stories from the splendid old dears who were allowed to speak for themselves.

One, an early ecologist, refused to have the cobras cleared from her garden ("they don't want to hurt you"). Other threats to recreating a Surrey lawn east of Snez included sacred cows, monkeys, mad dogs and elephants. Recommended methods for breaking up the intractable soil extended to dynamite blasts (the gardener should "seek safety behind a tree"). All this to make "a right little corner of England in a foreign field" as the narrator chirped unhelpfully, unwilling to leave well alone.

But the gently downbeat ending made amends: a man-sabbah recalled how she told off a boy goatherd for cutting off her greenery to feed his beasts, and the mild reproach from an old Indian: "You have so much and they are so poor." I felt so ashamed, she said, going up in one's estimation, higher even than Queen Victoria...

Off the Wall/Antony Thornecroft  
Royal Court  
on a roll

The Prudential made Stephen Daldry, artistic director of London's Royal Court Theatre, more secure this week. It gave him £75,000, the 1995 Prudential Award for the Arts, the biggest cash sum going in the field. In addition the Theatre picked up another £25,000 for winning the drama category.

Daldry plans to use the money nurturing new playwrights and audiences rather than splashing out on costly productions. So the education programme and more commissions will be the major beneficiaries.

The prizes won by the Royal Court in the past year have become positively embarrassing for *Hesperia*, *My Night with Reg*, *Seward of Christendom*, *Babies*, *Mojo* and more. It will be surprising if Daldry is not on stage clutching a bauble at next month's Olivier theatrical awards ceremony.

The other Prudential category winners, each receiving £35,000, were the Jonathan Burrows Group (dance); Tramway (visual arts); Unknown Public (music); and Glyndebourne (opera).

Glyndebourne is on something of a high at the moment. The £25,000 from the Prudential caps a successful 1995 festival, which beat its box office target with 99 per cent of saleable seats sold.

This summer Glyndebourne presents two new productions - Handel's *Theodora*, directed by the Californian enfant terrible Peter Sellars, and Berg's *Lulu*, created by the home based team of Andrew Davis and Graham Vick. The revivals are Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, Tchaikovsky's *Yevgeny Onegin*, Strauss's *Arabella*, and Rossini's *Ermine*, the surprise hit of last season.

The better seat prices are raised slightly, to a top of £110, but the three cheapest categories, at £10, £15 and £20, remain unchanged.

Glyndebourne has been successful in attracting a new audience to its large auditorium. Last year 30,000 seats, 35 per cent of capacity, went to non-members, against between 3,000 to 10,000 seats available to non-members at the old Glyndebourne. So visit to the South Downs is now a practical proposition.

The RSC has just announced its Stratford programme for this summer. The three Shakespeare plays in the main theatre are *As You Like It*, *Macbeth* and *Troilus and Cressida*, while at the Swan there is Webster's *The White Devil*, the first revival in 250 years of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, a collaboration between John Gay, Alexander Pope and John Arbuthnot; and the premiere of Richard Nelson's *The General from America*, about the traitor Benedict Arnold.

At the Other Place there is the premiere of Peter Whelan's *The Herbarist*, about Shakespeare's daughter, Susanna; *The Comedy of Errors*; and Molière's *The Learned Ladies*. The London season opens with Edward Bond's first new play for six years, in *The Company of Men*, a treatise on justice.

The rest of the London season is made up of last year's Stratford repertoire including *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Richard II* and *Julius Caesar*.

In the summer of 1997 there will be no RSC at the Barbican, following artistic director Adrian Noble's decision to abandon London for six months a year. But, against expectations, the RSC will not spend the time touring the regions. It will just concentrate on its Stratford work, touring in the winter months.

One advantage of the controversial new programming policy is that it ties actors to shorter contracts, which should enable the RSC to attract bigger names and a wider choice.

Theatre/Alastair Macaulay

Exhilarating  
Sweet Panic

In *Sweet Panic*, his exceptionally exciting new play, Stephen Pollakoff keeps us on tenterhooks. What kind of play is this? And where will it lead? It is, in part, a kind of fictional documentary on the life of a female child therapist, Clare, partly as seen by herself. It is also about various forms of vulnerability experienced by those with whom she comes into contact, and experienced by her. And it is an ironic commentary on the value-for-money expectations people may have of psychotherapy in this post-Thatcherite era too. Oh, and it also contains two terrific roles for women.

But what is most engrossing, from start to finish, is a completely different kind of ambivalence. On the one hand, *Sweet Panic* is a suspenseful thriller in which Clare's composure, career and life are imperilled; on the other hand, it is full of social satire, keeping us amused with its witty, and very "now", pictures of English types and English life. The various aspects of the play are often dovetailed into one another, so that, as the plot deepens, so that, as the plot deepens, so that, as the plot deepens...

Clare (Harriet Walter) is visited, interrupted, pursued, haunted, by Mrs Trevel (Saskia Reeves), a youngish woman of roughly her own age. Pushy, and mildly nutty, Mrs Trevel is a neurotic and driven upper-middle-class woman who is disarmingly self-aware and sees perfectly well that she must seem like "the mother from hell". It is an impressive token of Pollakoff's skill that, on press night (I write in the hour that followed), some people in the audience kept guffawing at Mrs Trevel's bright but batty remarks as if she was a Victoria Wood creation, while others were gripped in alarm about whatever the hell she was going to say or do next.

Mrs Trevel and Clare are sufficiently of the same generation to discover what they have in common and how dissimilar they nonetheless are. In one scene, Clare plays Mrs Trevel a cassette she herself recorded when young and the two of them fasten on to opposite aspects in it. *Sweet Panic* is not perfect.

The ending is stimulating and arresting, but neither quite believable in plot terms (we cannot believe Clare would follow this potential nutter into terrain this risky) nor fully clear in meaning (the various uses of panic, sweet or otherwise, are thrown at us too suddenly). Some of the satire - such as a line about Canadian lecturing on "Monorails, Dad or Alive" - is too flip. But none of this detracts from the play's excitement.

Part of the excitement lies in the spectacle of two of our leading actresses being challenged and extended. I have never seen Saskia Reeves so sure or so complex as in her Mrs Trevel. Perfectly she steers us and the play as she develops from a cartoon oddball into a dangerous and serious woman. At the centre of the play is Harriet Walter as Clare. As an actress, Walter has sometimes seemed, in recent years, to be in danger of becoming - with her brilliant array of different voices and accents - merely a marvellous satirist; a clever character-player (see *Sense and Sensibility*) rather than the compelling and heart-catching psychological actress that she can be. The role of Clare is ideal for her, because it shows both aspects of her talent.

Pollakoff, who directs, deserves further credit for this. The rest of the cast all do well, too. Tom Piper's set, in beautiful shades of blue and brown, elegantly and simply becomes both Clare's office and several other places in the London of summer 1995.

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ARTS

Cultural revolution in New York

The performing arts scene is forecast to become richer and livelier. Andrew Clark reports

Why do Manhattanites have a mental block about Brooklyn? Why is Lincoln Center empty in summer? And why must City Opera play second fiddle to the Met? These are baffling questions for outsiders, and they can be equally baffling for New Yorkers.

Most of New York's culture buffs live in Manhattan and regard Brooklyn as alien territory. With Broadway and Lincoln Center on their doorstep, they only venture across the East River if there is something exceptional at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) - New York's bastion of the blue-chip avant-garde.

Lincoln Center's summer programme is subject to a different type of prejudice. The conventional wisdom is that summer and culture in New York are mutually exclusive: those who want summer go to the beach or the country, those who want culture head for Europe.

More you do, the more you build. If we do something interesting, people will materialise. We're working on a three-year cycle. If at the end we find no one turned up because the programme was esoteric or our marketing was wrong, it will be back to the drawing board.

Rockwell's first season certainly looks impressive. It includes Bob Wilson's Houston staging of Virgil Thomson's Four Saints in Three Acts, the US debut of John Eliot Gardiner's Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique, five concerts by the Kirov Orchestra and Chorus, the complete plays of Samuel Beckett, a Japanese gaga ensemble, a new outdoor work by Merve Cunningham, and a specially-commissioned Wynton Marsalis score choreographed by Judith Jamison for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

Last month a new factor came into the equation: BAM hosted the New York City debut of Glimmerglass Opera, the summer festival at Cooperstown in upstate New York. For New York City audiences, who account for only 17 per cent of Glimmerglass's box office, the BAM performances of Monteverdi's Poppea offered a taste of an aesthetic they can now expect to see more often.

artistically the two companies have much in common. Both are havens for young American singers, and both offer a balance of standard works and rarities.



With his virile, husky-voiced charm, 'Singin' in the Rain' was one of Gene Kelly's many expertly-judged roles; while Fred Astaire's solo dances keep yielding up new secrets and intricacies each time they are seen

Great hoofers of Hollywood

Who was the finest dancer ever to be caught on film? Alastair Macaulay weighs up the evidence

No doubt about it, the title number of the movie Singin' in the Rain is one of the classic and most exhilarating images of cinema. The death of its star, Gene Kelly, last week, has prompted inevitable celebrations of this wonderful movie and of his guy, so wonderfully normal, grinning and singing and hoofing, at the centre of it all, through a downpour.

Gene Kelly is at the centre of other evergreen film musicals too - such as Cover Girl (1944), The Pirate (1948), and On the Town (1949). While musicals like those were being made - Kelly's main film career as a performer spanned from 1942 to 1957 - the Hollywood musical was indeed riding high.

effect goes beyond purism. It gives these dances their incomparable kinaesthetic thrill, especially in the amazing length of their takes. How do Kelly and his films compare with that? His singing has its husky-voiced charm, but it seldom brands itself onto the shape of a song. His great plus as a dancer is that he looked more virile - more of a handsome, regular guy - than Astaire.

Royal Festival Hall advertisement listing various musical performances including 'The Magic of Mozart' and 'The Philharmonia Orchestra'.

ART GALLERIES advertisement for DUNCAN CAMPBELL, listing art exhibitions and contact information.

GÖTTERDÄMMERUNG advertisement for The Royal Opera, featuring Wagner's opera and listing performance details.

Bloomsbury to Internet

The British Library is moving more than just its address, reports Antony Thorncroft

S ometime this autumn the great re-stacking will start. The first of 12m books and manuscripts will move from the British Museum, and depots throughout London, into the new British Library at St Pancras.

For all its size and cost the false impression of the activities of the institution. The seats for 1,178 readers, up a mere 74 from the capacity of Panizzi's much loved Reading Room in the British Museum, are nothing compared with the thousands of transactions the library handles each day with its business and academic clients.

The building saga that began almost two decades ago is finally reaching its conclusion. When it is open the new British Library may seduce many of its critics. It will immediately become an arts venue, "The Centre for the Book" in Lang's vision.

decision yet over charging, but the facilities in the new reading rooms, even though they might not stretch to delivering books more quickly, suggest payment.

JOSEPH'S OPTIC advertisement for eye services.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including page number 21 and various small notices.

SPORT

World Cup Cricket

# Australia to start as firm favourites

Simon Hughes previews a tournament beset with problems

Ever since Pakistan and India filched the hosting of the 1996 World Cup from under England's noses three years ago, the tournament has been beset by problems.

The two countries are not exactly bosom pals and the general organisation has remained, like the sub-continent's own infrastructure, shambolic.

Most of the competing countries are still awaiting replies to an endless stream of faxes relating to various arrangements, and a team of people from Trans World International, the event manager, is trying to paper over the cracks.

Even at this late stage the rebuilding of some grounds and hotels is incomplete and the organisers are meeting in Calcutta today to discuss possible last-minute venue changes.

Add to this the unrest in various cities - the bombs, the shootings, the demonstrations - plus the headache of transporting 240 players and officials around three Asian countries (Sri Lanka was granted four matches) and 26 different grounds and you have a logistical nightmare.

In a part of the world where airport staff can confiscate anything from nail scissors to batteries, it is no wonder the Englishman in charge of the event's TV coverage and a mountain of equipment, is almost completely bald.

The most sobering thought is that with a projected TV audience of 1.5bn for the final, and lucrative sponsorship deals signed and sealed, the host countries expect to make a profit of something in the region of \$35m (£22.7m).

While they count their profits, the teams flog themselves through a preliminary round of five group matches, and two knockout stages before the



Brian Lara: a treat for the World Cup spectators

would provide a showpiece for cricket's new era, putting on a world stage the two best drilled, most scientifically prepared and physically impressive teams. It would relay the message that this eccentric old sport is at last shuffling towards the modern age.

Pakistan and India still like to play the game the old-fashioned way, which probably rules them both out as finalists, although there are bound to be some fireworks along the way - off the pitch as well as on it. There is still more than a hint of internal wrangling in the Pakistan team, which the inclusion of Javed Miandad after an 18-month lay off is only likely to inflame.

Wasim Akram has a difficult task trying to keep all the disparate elements together. With the ball, Akram is still as potent as anyone in the world, but his batting has declined, and so has the destructiveness of his once feared new ball partner Waqar Younis. They are also inclined to drop catches.

Fielding may be India's undoing too. World cup matches are hectic, intense scrambles for superiority in which extreme agility and a throw like an Exocoet are of inestimable value. It is all very well to have bowlers with the devious skill of Amlil Kumble, but not much use if lumbering, fallible groundwork lets dangerous batsmen off the hook. This also eliminates Sri Lanka from the final equation.

Assuming New Zealand's form is as rickety as the knees of the retired Martin Crowe, this leaves Australia, South Africa, West Indies and England as the most likely semi-finalists.

The inclusion of Brian Lara has delighted the public and browned off some of his West Indian team-mates but his presence significantly improves their chances. Carl

Hooper will be missed though.

England may appear to be in the doldrums after six one-day international drubbings in South Africa, but do not be deceived. They have three relatively easy matches to start with and are based mainly in northern Pakistan where the weather is cool and the wickets reliable.

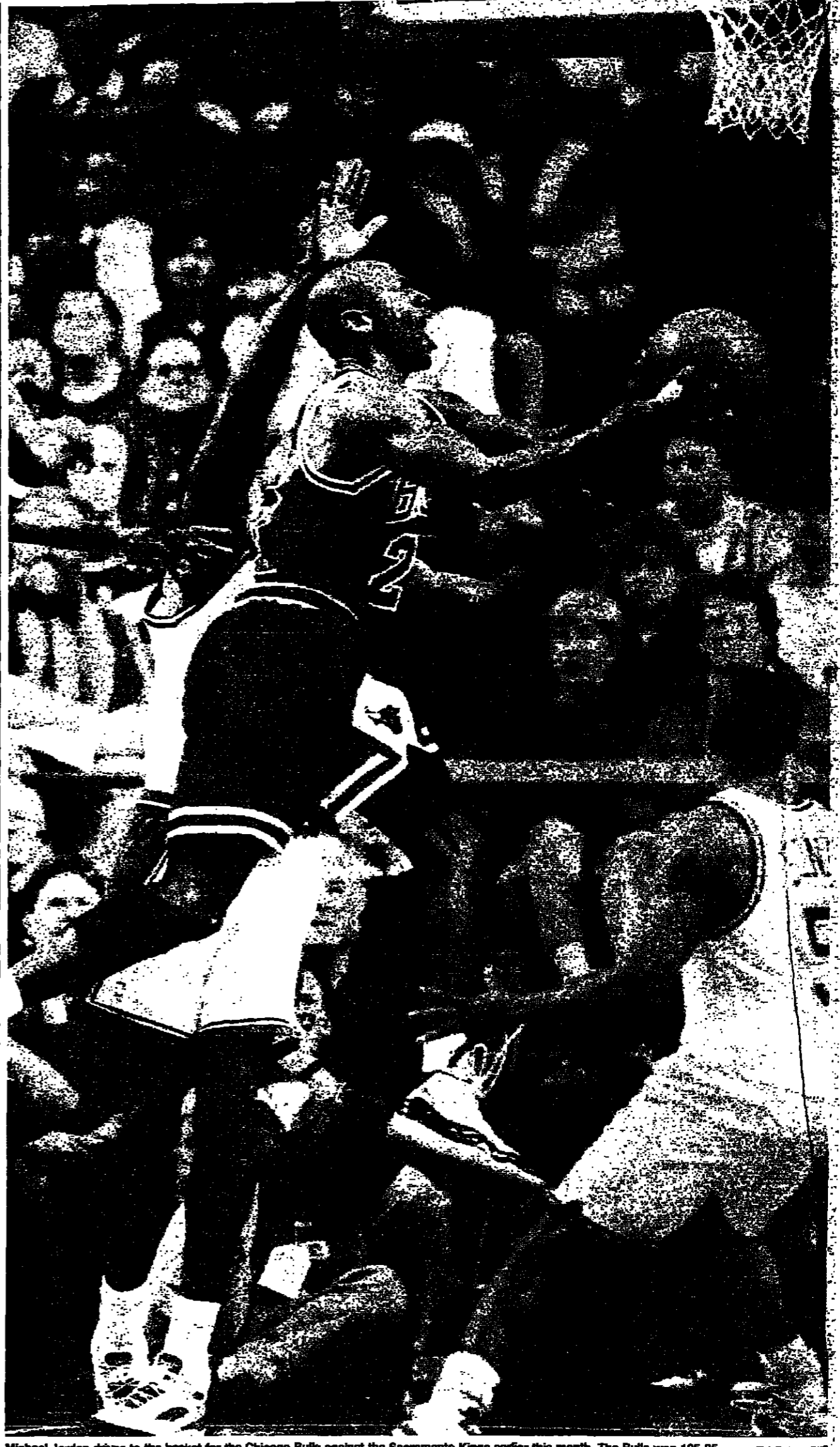
They should qualify for the knockout stage and a couple of substantial early wins might restore their confidence. Graham Thorpe is as good a one-day batsman as anyone in the world, and Graeme Hick is at last asserting his massive authority. Ultimately they might just lack the conviction to bring home the World Cup for the first time.

In their own quest for an expansive game, the ICC invited the three most successful teams from the Associate members World Cup to this tournament.

None of them has a hope of reaching the quarter finals - Holland are too dour, UAE too erratic, Kenya too inexperienced. But Kenya could become the cricketing equivalent of Cameroon. Kenyan cricket was once dominated by expatriate Indians, but now indigenous Africans are warming to the game, bringing to it a breathtaking zest and astonishing stamina.

Watching the brilliant Steve Tikolo in partnership with Maurice Odumbe you would be forgiven for thinking it was Carl Lewis batting with Linford Christie.

It seems faintly ironic that the main sponsor of a competition which exacts high demands on players' fitness and agility should be the Imperial Tobacco Company. The name Wills will be plastered all over outfielders, sightscreens and billboards as a strong reminder that, as Pakistan proved in the 1992 final, where there's a Will there's a way.



Michael Jordan drives to the basket for the Chicago Bulls against the Sacramento Kings earlier this month. The Bulls won 105-85

## Basketball / Michael Carlson The NBA's teen targets

Tomorrow, the world's greatest basketball players meet in San Antonio, Texas, for the National Basketball Association (NBA) All-Star Game, matching the best from the Eastern and Western Conferences, two dream teams for the price of one.

Channel 4 will show the match live in Britain, launching a three-weekly assault on audiences by Michael Jordan and his cohorts. It is part of a concentrated effort to sell the NBA in Britain, and establish a beach-head for basketball in northern Europe.

The NBA has been on British television before: on BBC, some ITV regions, Screensport, and last year on Sky Sports. Channel 4 broadcast British basketball a decade ago. So far, the sight of men the size of rugby players Wade Dooley running and jumping like decathlete Daley Thompson and throwing in baskets from 26ft has not impressed itself on the British public.

Britain is not the only place in which "hoops" are a minority pursuit. In Europe, there is a serious north/south divide. Basketball is a strong second sport in Spain, Turkey, and Italy; it runs close to football in the former Yugoslavia, is the biggest sport in Israel and is, arguably, number one in Greece.

In northern Europe, apart from Lithuania (European champions in 1993) and Russia, it is far from dominant. Germany produces NBA players, and European champions, but its league struggles.

There are two main differences between north and south. In Spain, big football clubs adopted basketball. Real Madrid and Barcelona are still among the strongest teams. Clubs and schools built outdoor courts, where, as in America, youngsters play all year long, by themselves or in small groups. And apart from football, there are no other significant team sports.

The second difference is success. Spanish basketball teams received a boost after their Olympic silver medal win in 1994. The upsurge of popularity in Greece followed their victory in the European championships.

Paul Zilk, who supervises the NBA's seven international offices from Geneva, thinks it is time for a change. He points to a poll conducted by the Sofres, the French public relations company.

Boys aged between 11 and 19 put basketball second in their interest in four of Europe's five leading markets, all except Britain, where it is fifth.

In France, basketball trails football only slightly. Even in Britain, 83 per cent of youngsters know what the initials NBA mean, and it has been played by more boys than any sport except football.

Blame it on Michael Jordan. "The young generation idolises him," says Zilk. Jordan, not Roberto Baggio, is the most popular sportsman in Italy among 11 to 19-year-olds.

He is first in France (with Andre Agassi pipping Eric Cantona for second place). He is third behind Miguel Indurain and Michael Laudrup in Spain, and fifth in both

Germany and Britain (where the boys' own favourite is Cantona, followed by Damon Hill, Ryan Giggs, and Frank Bruno). More importantly, both Magic Johnson and Shaquille O'Neal are ahead of, say, Gary Lineker.

With John Amaechi finding his unlikely way to the Cleveland Cavaliers, British youngsters have an aspirational target. But in Britain the club system is isolated, rather than central. British basketball clubs cannot reach out to their communities in the way Real Madrid can.

So the NBA is moving into schools. Mark Cohon, who heads its London office, offered a programme called NBA 2ball to schools in the UK, to establish the game in physical education classes.

"We offered a free kit to the first 500 schools who faxed us," says Cohon with a smile. "My fax machine was on fire for days."

Mike Smith, chief executive of The Basketball League, is pleased to work with the NBA in development, but sees his main problem as moving the

spectator sport forward.


"In southern Europe, they sell it as sport, complete with tribal rivalries," he says. "We sell it as a night out, an exciting product in a good arena, whether you're a basketball expert or not."

Smith points to Manchester, averaging 5,000 spectators per game in a highly competitive market. "We have a five-year plan to create high-profile franchises," he says. "We see the increased exposure the NBA brings as complementary toward selling the live product here."

Channel 4 is aiming its three programmes at different demographic segments: NBA 24-7, on Thursdays at 6pm, is aimed at the after-school family viewer. "It's more a lifestyle show, for people who don't know the sport," explains Cohon.

NBA Raw, on Sunday mornings, has action highlights for an audience familiar with the MTV all-music channel. On Wednesday, late at night, NBA XXL shows whole games, for serious supporters. If there are enough converts, XXL will continue beyond its initial six-week run.

It is clear that 11-19 year-olds are the main target. They wear the gear already, now they need to embrace the game. The image-conscious league knows how to accentuate the positive. Charles Barkley can spit at fans and still do commercials; Magic Johnson is probably the world's most visible and accepted HIV-positive figure, and now he is back on court. The NBA stars are larger-than-life.



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THEATRE Théâtre des Capucins Tel: 352-224506... Mutter Courage und ihre Kinder: by Bertolt Brecht...

LYON

CONCERT Opéra de Lyon Tel: 33-72 00 45 45... Sylvie McNair, accompanied by pianist Roger Vignoles...

MADRID

CONCERT Auditorio Nacional de Música Tel: 34-1-3370100... Orquesta Nacional de España: with conductor Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos...

MILAN

CONCERT Teatro alla Scala di Milano Tel: 39-2-72003744... Maurizio Pollini: the pianist performs sonatas by Beethoven...

MUNICH

CONCERT Philharmonie im Gasteig Tel: 49-89-48098506... Mozartum Orchester Salzburg: with conductor Enoch zu Guttenberg...

NAPLES

OPERA Teatro di San Carlo Tel: 39-81-7972111... Werther: by Massenet. Conducted by Gianpaolo Sanzogno...

PARIS

CONCERT Cité de la Musique Tel: 33-1 44 84 45 00... Le Deum: by Berlioz. Performed by the Orchestre du Conservatoire de Paris...

ROME

CONCERT Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia Tel: 39-6-3611064... Orchestra dell'Accademia di Santa Cecilia...

SYDNEY

OPERA Sydney Opera House - Concert Hall Tel: 61-2-250-7111... Fidelio: by Beethoven. Conducted by Richard Hickox...

VIENNA

OPERA Wiener Staatsoper Tel: 43-1-514442606... Peter Grimes: by Britten. Conducted by Mstislav Rostropovich...

BRIDGE

Matthew Sadler, the 21-year-old British champion, has won the £3,000 Leigh Interests grand prix, the UK tournament...

BRIDGE

This hand from rubber bridge shows the art of deception. N ♠ K J 10 9 7 5 ♣ 8 4 ♠ 3 2 ♣ 10 6 2 ♠ 9 3 2 ♣ Q J 9 8 7 ♠ 4 3 2 ♣ A Q 6 ♠ 10 6 2 ♠ 9 3 2 ♣ Q J 9 8 7 ♠ 4 3 2 ♣ A Q 6 ♠ 10 6 2 ♠ 9 3 2 ♣ Q J 9 8 7 ♠ 4 3 2 ♣ A Q 6

CROSSWORD

No. 8,990 Set by CINEPHILE. A prize of a classic Pelikan Souverain 800 fountain pen for the first correct solution opened and five runner-up prizes of £36 Pelikan vouchers...

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Solution to the crossword puzzle, showing the words filled into the grid.

CHES

Matthew Sadler, the 21-year-old British champion, has won the £3,000 Leigh Interests grand prix, the UK tournament...

Chess board diagram showing a specific position during a game.

BRIDGE

This hand from rubber bridge shows the art of deception. N ♠ K J 10 9 7 5 ♣ 8 4 ♠ 3 2 ♣ 10 6 2 ♠ 9 3 2 ♣ Q J 9 8 7 ♠ 4 3 2 ♣ A Q 6 ♠ 10 6 2 ♠ 9 3 2 ♣ Q J 9 8 7 ♠ 4 3 2 ♣ A Q 6 ♠ 10 6 2 ♠ 9 3 2 ♣ Q J 9 8 7 ♠ 4 3 2 ♣ A Q 6

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James Morgan

# Gorra minute to read this, then?

### You have? Then remember, linguistic permissiveness has its own immorality

Every year in Britain, a notable figure gives what are known as the Reith lectures on the radio. So it was on Tuesday evening that I settled down to listen to Jean Aitchison, Rupert Murdoch professor of language and communication at Oxford, to hear why we should welcome change in language.

Any reactionary in such matters has a duty to listen to a well-modulated defence of glottal stops, bad grammar, grunts and one hopes, misplaced apostrophes. The main thing is to avoid rising to Aitchison's gentle provocations as she explains how difficult it is to

say, "Betty bought a bottle" when replacing every "t" with a strangulated glottal. We all know that one has to work hard at being truly slovenly.

The argument in favour of accepting change is easily stated: language always has changed and always will. English always "tidies things up," as Aitchison puts it. Thus "graffiti", although plural in Italian, has become singular in English - so the sentence "graffiti is ugly" is fine.

Curiously, the professor used the word "media" as a plural in her lecture. She pointed out that we have got rid of some curious plu-

als in the past, so why not get rid of more?

On the other hand, we have kept some - oxen, feet and men, to name but three. But maintaining such plurals is desirable not just as some linguistic museum piece but as a reflection of the way our minds work.

I am indebted to another linguist, Stephen Plinker, for his insights. In his marvellous book *The Language Instinct*, he writes of the secret rules we all obey. We will say that a cat makes claw-marks on a door. We cannot say who ruled that "I don't know nothing" really means "I do know some-

marks, on the leg of lamb it has gnawed illicitly. We automatically use the plural for a word which changes its stem when pluralised.

Here is another oddity. There is an ice hockey team called the Toronto Maple Leafs. That is very peculiar indeed - nearly as peculiar as Toronto Maple Leaves. We cease using the normal plural of "leaf" because we are talking about ice hockey and not about leaves.

To Aitchison, this would be a purely arbitrary rule - like the double negative making a positive. For that, we have to thank a bishop who ruled that "I don't know nothing" really means "I do know some-

thing". This so-called arbitrariness conflicts with usage in Latin languages but happily reflects the Germanic roots of English.

The problem is that language might be dynamic but it is static at the moment we speak. If the rules are changing all about us, we still interview someone for a job in journalism. If I questioned his qualifications, he might reply: "Are you inferring I could not do it?" I reply: "Yes." To which he answers: "I utterly refute that."

As soon as anyone uses "infer" to mean imply and "refute" as reject, I (and many others) would show him

the door where the job demands that its holder is understood (all too many get through the net). This is not linguistic snobbery - it is an attempt to save meaning. The words "implication" and "refutation" have a history, and there is nothing to replace them.

Aitchison used three significant authorities to justify her stand in favour of tidy new usages: a fashion designer Donna Karan ("I opened the envelope which bared my name"), a drug addict who "shotted up", and a rock music journalist who said something I did not understand.

So we have no choice but to fol-

low this ghastly elite as it guides our language to ever more refined pastures.

The professor denies any link between morality and "good language", which some of my extremist friends allege. New speech forms do not lead to anti-social behaviour. But linguistic permissiveness has its own immorality: it promises forms of speech and usage in others that its promoters would never use themselves. Those others then fail to get the jobs they apply for because "their English lets them down".

One hopes they will know who, sorry whom, to blame.

## Private View

# Defender of the citizens' force

Christian Tyler meets John Alderson, the 'thinking' policeman

Law and Order is the stick with which an ailing British government hopes to beat off the Labour challenge - or so John Major, the prime minister, has made plain.

Less order means more law. And if New Labour does not like the formula much, it is forced to sit on its hands for fear of seeming soft on crime.

But crime and punishment should not be wielded like a political truncheon, says John Alderson, a former senior policeman. We have gone too far down that road. "It's time to start asking some other questions."

A wet liberal policeman? Not exactly. A wartime physical training instructor who lectures on human rights; a former boxer and rugby full-back who quotes Kant and Bertrand Russell; a tough-guy intellectual who qualified as a barrister and read Karl Popper and John Rawls; today he is the country's leading policeman-philosopher.

I met Alderson at home in Devon, where he was once chief constable, serving about in sharply creased grey flannels with the vigour of a man half his age (he is 73). He talked with great intensity, fixing his eyes on a point just above the skirting board.

Alderson seems a courteous, decent man. He does not, however, pull his punches. MI5 he calls "the secret political police". The parliamentary bill which would allow MI5 to do police work he describes as a recipe for a Gestapo.

Curbs on the prisoner's right of silence, the promised introduction of identity cards and a failed attempt to set up a national police force he regards as "symptoms of incipient Fascism".

When I accused him of trying to shame his enemies with high moral tone, he replied: "My strength comes from the fact that all my beginnings have been humble.

"I mean, I was a private sol-

dier in an unfashionable regiment. I was a constable in an industrial part of south Yorkshire. I've rolled around in the sawdust on a Saturday night with miners - who are quite tough.

"I haven't been brought up in a kind of rarified atmosphere. I've had to search for these things. All I can tell you is my experience. I've done it."

He was born in Barnsley, the Yorkshire mining town, to a "bourgeois" trader family. His grandfather had been Conservative mayor and chairman of the football club.

He learned his self-reliance the hard way: he was seven when his father died, leaving his mother to bring up John, four girls and a baby brother.

"But I survived. I developed self-confidence from the circumstances. I was, literally, a man almost overnight. When I was 14 my mother bought me a trilby. She would make me walk on the outside of a lady, make me raise my hat to a lady, be a gentleman. I could see what she was doing. She was making me her right-hand man."

He found a second family in the army, first as a private of the Highland Light Infantry, later as a sergeant-major with battle-training duties in north Africa and Italy. It was a simple choice to join the police afterwards.

Nicknamed "Garth" because of his enthusiasm for physical fitness, Alderson was from the start regarded as different.

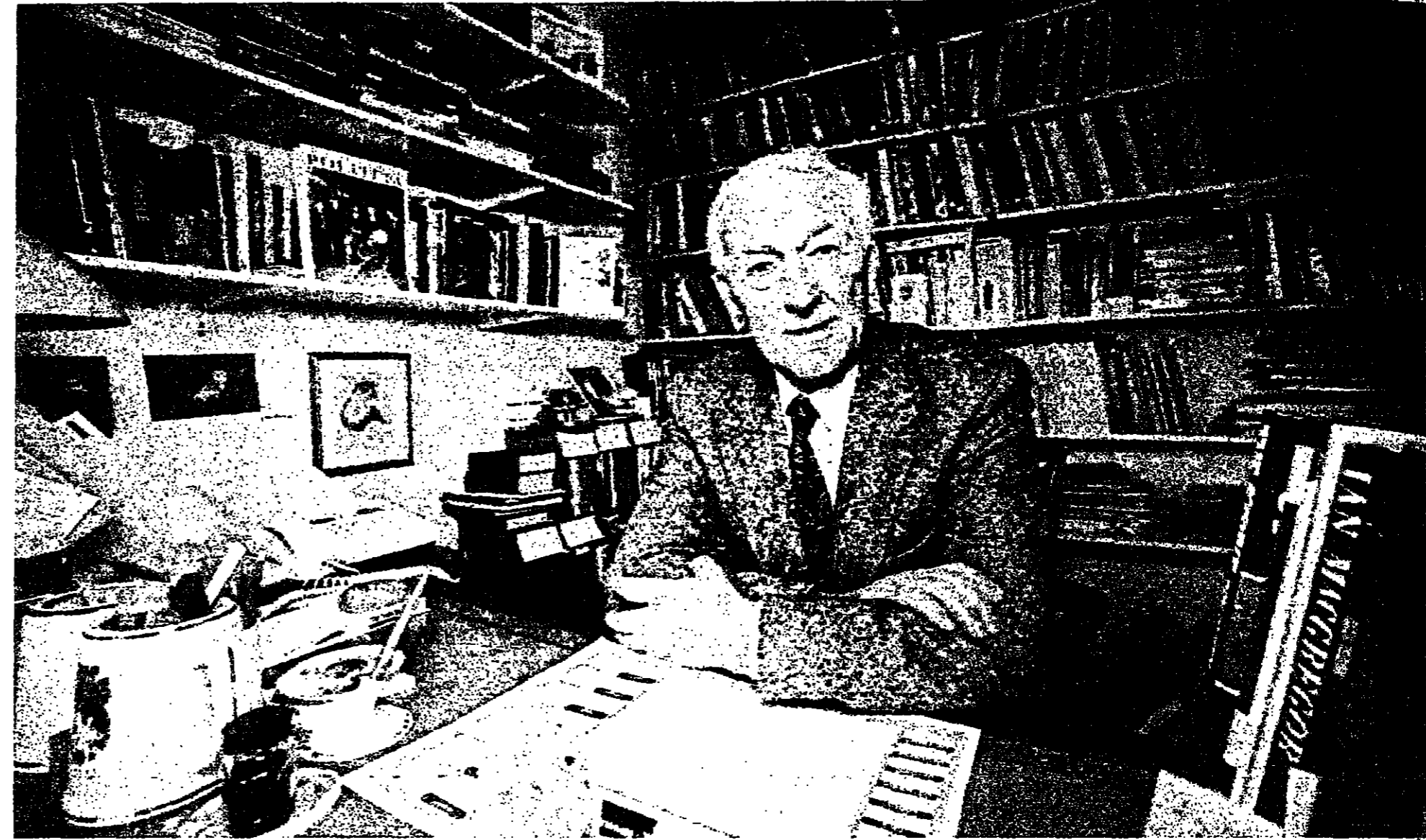
Different how?

"As somebody who reads books and who questioned the morality of issues when he should be getting on with the job."

Was that a handicap?

"No. I could get mixed up in a brawl as a sergeant or constable, and these were 'chalks'. Even if my ideas became a bit odd I could still beat most of them in the street when it came to it."

After reading for the Bar at the Middle Temple, Alderson won a fellowship in Australia,



John Alderson at home in Devon: reading Gibbon's 'History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire' was a turning point in his life

where his irreverence was only confirmed. "There I learned that sometimes the most loyal people are those prepared to speak out," he said.

On the brink of a legal career, he was promoted rapidly through the police ranks. His interest in the law was sharpened by a spell as a police prosecutor and by reading Gibbon's *History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.

"It was one of the great turning points. I was never quite the same after reading that." From Gibbon he derived a respect for the power of ideas and what he called "the capacity of man to rise above the squalor."

Gibbon taught him to admire Theodora, wife of the Byzantine emperor Justinian.

"Because I grew up with girls and my mother, I've always respected women," he added. "I think that makes a man. I regard it as even more important in today's society that these feminine virtues should be deployed."

Alderson left the police force in 1962 when he was 60. He had hoped to become head of Scotland Yard but his time there as assistant commissioner told him he was not in line. Also, he was becoming overtly political. He stood for Teignbridge as a Liberal in 1963. Now he

thinks the party is insufficiently robust.

His fundamental conviction is that in a country such as Britain the police can only combat crime with the people's consent. The men in blue must be seen as the citizens' force, not as a paramilitary arm of the state. It is a distinction which too few policemen understand, he said.

"Policemen intensely dislike disorder. Their antennae go up because they think it's a challenge to their authority, their masculinity."

"Of course, you've got to order people. To me that is a huge power. The first time I ever arrested anybody I felt this flush of power going through me. Here was another human being like me but totally in my power."

"But I always acknowledge that if you can't use violence - or 'force', to dress it up in a semantic frock - you can't be a policeman. That means violence even to the point of having to kill somebody in very rare circumstances. I've never jibbed at that."

His keyword is "protection". The police are there to protect citizens - ideas and values, too. Some police action may be immoral, even if legal, such as the policing of miners' picket lines. "The miners may have

been blind, but they weren't bad." As for the British police, they crossed a watershed during the last miners' strike. "It was their Vietnam."

Alderson is the pioneer of so-called community policing, where people ask what they want the police to do. He has lectured as far afield as China, written letters to dictators, and investigated police death squads in Brazil on behalf of Amnesty International.

Was Britain's problem an authoritarian government or a lawless society?

Alderson was indirect. "I have seen riot squads on duty where middle-aged ladies were protesting about cruelty to sheep and calves," he said. "I would far rather have seen one policeman in a helmet saying, 'You can't do this, folks, it's not fair.'"

"If you meet these disturbances with supreme force you're only suppressing something which you'll have to deal with anyway." Riot squads were sometimes necessary. "But they delude us into thinking we can get by in a defective society by having battalions of policemen."

Where there was juvenile delinquency, we should try to understand its causes. "Don't get me wrong. I was a policeman for 36 years and I know

there are some very bad people who do very bad things and they have to be locked away. I accept all that. But I do not accept that the answer to the bulk of our juvenile delinquency is locking them up. It just doesn't work."

"What the public want is reassurance. They don't necessarily want punitive, cruel policing. Look at the outburst over the manning of pregnant women prisoners."

Perhaps, I said, you are just a nostalgic conservative.

"It's an interesting comment. Thank you very much for making it. But I believe in the brotherhood of man - that if a man is being tortured in a jail in Beijing now, it is my concern."

To deal with law and order we must learn to understand humanity, have faith in human decency, and use force only in extreme cases.

"You hear siren voices saying, 'Give me your freedom and I will deliver you from your dilemma.' Well, these are

demagogues. Our leaders don't seem to be able to marshal the language of decency. They marshal the language of power.

"We really do need philosopher-kings, people who can articulate our values for us, not in a party political sense but in a civic sense. Unless we do this we're going to need more policemen, more powerful policemen, more highly equipped policemen."

"We're going to lose. And it's not going to be nice."

Peter Aspden

# Magic, memory and videotape

I have a recurring argument with an old school friend which has lasted the best part of 25 years. It concerns the football team which we both support, although it applies to any aspect of art or culture which has been dragged through the vivid technological changes of the years since the second world war.

The argument always occurs when we reminisce about the goals we witnessed in our childhood on the terraces. It is standard practice, during such Proustian reveries, to grade them in terms of historical importance, degree of difficulty or, more controversially, aesthetic merit.

And here the argument begins: for he bemoans the fact that television cameras were not around then to record every single goal for posterity, for we could then settle the issue. I counter that the cloudiness of the image in our minds, is a quintessential part of the whole experience: a misty tribute to the fleeting moment.

Such is life, I say. It comes, it goes, and although one tries to hang on to those sublime fragments, one cannot preserve them. To capture a great moment of sport, or art, or even life on camera is to begin to destroy it.

My friend tells me I am a Luddite, a romantic. And I have to admit that I enjoy re-viewing on television classic moments I have been privileged to watch at first-hand. But I do so with heavy heart, knowing that each new viewing takes away some of the magic.

Take another form of culture which relies heavily on the ephemeral, transcendental moment: opera. Talk to those who were lucky enough to see Maria Callas at the peak of her powers, and you will be regaled with tales of incomparable, spine-tingling performances. Crucially, Callas lived just before the age of widespread television coverage; a happy piece of timing which was guaranteed to catapult her into legend.

There is only one complete act of opera featuring Callas on film - Act Two of *Tosca* from Covent Garden - and she was already past her best. As for the rest, we can only listen to old

recordings, stare at still photographs and imagine. The scratchy, hissing pieces of tape by which we are destined to remember Callas can, thankfully, only evoke a fraction of the mystique.

Would we feel the same about her if every piece of work she had performed had been recorded on high-quality video-tape, to be endlessly re-cycled and re-packaged for jaded markets? In short, could she have survived the Pavlov effect? Her record company, EMI, is trying to bring her into the technological revolution by preparing an inter-active CD-Rom programme, but with such limited footage available, what chance does it have beside the testimony of those fortunate witnesses to her genius?

Having thus digressed into alien fields (for it is a boring match we are watching), my line of argument soon comes to its logical conclusion: that there ought to be some kind of ban on television cameras from recording too many wonderful moments.

They would be allowed into the Olympic Games, for instance, but they would only be able to record an event

from one angle, in normal speed, and replays would be banned altogether. That way, we would recover our sense of a 100-metre race lasting 10 seconds, and no more. We would be spared all those silly slow motion images of the sprinters' cheeks flopping up and down, and those wild-eyed lurches for the line would remain hidden to all but the man who holds the finishing tape in his hand.

Arts events are trickier: you could film singers or musicians who showed promise, but once they became accomplished you would have to ration media access. If they became world class, you could come and capture their efforts, say, once a year, and the tapes could be locked up in a vault for 30 years.

That way, if you heard on the grapevine about a great artist, be it in the sports stadium or the concert hall, you could only check out the rumour by queuing for days for a ticket, to see and hear for yourself. It would bring passion, intensity, fanaticism back to our lives; for some things should never be enjoyed from the pump safety of an armchair.

For the most influential theatre reviews in London, see The Times, The Evening Standard or the concierge at The Savoy.

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هذه امنه الاصل

WEEKEND INVESTOR

Last week's preliminary results

Table with columns: Company, Sector, Year, Pre-tax profit, Earnings per share, Dividend per share. Lists companies like Anglo American, Anglo Coal, Anglo Gold etc.

Results due next week

Table with columns: Company, Sector, Announcement date, Last year, Dividend. Lists companies like Anglo Coal, Anglo Gold, Anglo Petroleum etc.

Last week's interim results

Table with columns: Company, Sector, Year, Pre-tax profit, Earnings per share, Dividend per share. Lists companies like Anglo Coal, Anglo Gold, Anglo Petroleum etc.

Directors' dealings

Prospect Industries' share performance has been less than spectacular... Directors' share transactions in their own companies...

In the Pink

Food for thought in a world of constant change

Growth in demand is affecting prices of what we eat, especially for those in countries exposed to the free market, says Stephen Lewis

Stephen Lewis is director of research at the London Bond Broking Company... It is a truism that farmers are always complaining...

Previously, China has not had the financial resources to be a permanent net importer of food. The authorities now have all the money they need to finance grain imports

World food prices on commodity markets have risen by more than 20 per cent on average over the past year... The grain price surge was triggered when 1994 drought conditions in the southern hemisphere severely curtailed sales from such important grain suppliers as Australia and Argentina...

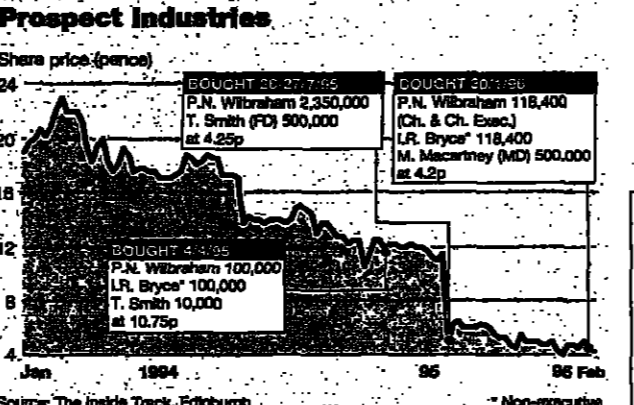
But Chinese agriculture cannot yet meet the food demands of a rapidly growing urban workforce... The EU response is even more sluggish. Officials in Brussels are still seeking to minimise the costs of financing stocks and their attitude is not conducive to adopting

Rights issues

Headline is to raise about £18.3m via a 1-4 rights issue at 185p... Integrated Optical Components to raise £25m via a placing...

New issues

Specialist electronic component manufacturer Integrated Optical Components International is hoping to raise £25m through a placing and open offer in a move which is likely to value the group at around £20m...



Directors' share transactions in their own companies

Table with columns: Company, Sector, Shares, Value, No. of Directors. Lists transactions for companies like Anglo Coal, Anglo Gold, Anglo Petroleum etc.

Alternative Investment Market Blaggs makes move into telecoms

Growing confidence in the Alternative Investment Market was underlined this week with news that Blaggs, a listed Midlands-based building materials group, is transforming itself into a telecoms services company...

The week ahead

TUESDAY: British Petroleum, which saw its share price rise to record levels last year, is expected to report replacement cost profits... WEDNESDAY: The 1995 results from Lloyds Abbey Life, the life insurer, start the three-day report of numbers from the Lloyds TSB Group...

THE TERM DEPOSIT ACCOUNT THAT'S ALWAYS OPEN. Tyndall Bank International advertisement featuring a large 'T' logo and a term deposit certificate image.

